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TheHighlander

Thursday May 28 2026 | Issue 741

INSIDE: HOME AND COTTAGE SHOW PAGES 13-16 FREE

Making a splash

A competitor skips over water during an Ontario Watercross Racing Association event this past weekend at the Pinestone. See more on page 20. *Photo by Adam Frisk.*

Men who drove excavator into lake fined

By Lisa Gervais

Two Haliburton men – who illegally used an excavator last summer to remove woody debris and aquatic vegetation along the Lipsy Lake shoreline – have been convicted and fined for unlawful use of machinery on lake shore lands.

The Ministry of Natural Resources said on May 22 that Patrick Mark and Jonathan Mark of Haliburton were fined $2,000 each after pleading guilty to unlawfully dredging shore lands without a permit.

The Ontario Court of Justice heard that on Aug. 11, 2025, the Marks were operating an excavator on the shore of Lipsy Lake, in Dysart et al, north of Haliburton.

"While attempting to remove woody debris and aquatic vegetation along the shoreline, the excavator was driven into the waters of Lipsy Lake," the MNR said.

They added the lakebed was scraped and dredged using the heavy machinery, without the men having obtained a permit.

"Witnesses observed the excavator in the water and immediately reported the incident to the ministry TIPS line. The ministry's district staff responded to the incident, completing a damage assessment before handing the investigation over to conservation officers," the ministry said last Friday.

Justice of the Peace, Joel Kulmatycki, heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, City of Kawartha Lakes, Feb. 24.

Continued **'Incident'** on page 2

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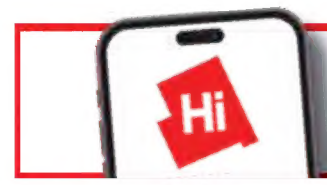

No algorithms

Incident used for public education

Continued from page 1

There was no remediation order associated with the conviction.

As the incident happened in Dysart et al, chief building official Karl Korpela said their bylaw enforcement officer conducted a joint investigation with the MNR and, "it was determined that this was outside of our jurisdiction as all of the work was completed below the high-water mark."

Haliburton County master gardener Carolyn Langdon told *The Highlander* that two weeks ago, she was able to stop a person in mid-destruction from doing a similar thing. She said she convinced the man to return the shoreline elder bushes and soil from the lake back to approximately where it was.

Frank Figuli of U-Links. *File.*

Check before you remove

With the recent conviction and fine, and Langdon's experience, U-Links program coordinator Frank Figuli said it's a good reminder for full-time and seasonal residents about the do's and don'ts of shoreline health.

"From an ecological standpoint, shoreline and near shore areas are some of the most sensitive and productive habitats within an aquatic system. People typically perceive aquatic vegetation and woody debris as a nuisance or a hinderance to enjoying the lake. But they truly do provide important ecological functions like fish habitats, shoreline stabilization, erosion resistance, nutrient cycling, and just overall benefits to water quality protection."

Figuli said they have done an aquatic plant inventory of Lipsy Lake, indicating an absence of invasive plant species.

He said using heavy equipment, such as an excavator, in a lake below the high-water mark can result in sediment disturbances, possible destruction of habitat, lead to shoreline destabilization – and can impact other properties and the larger lake ecosystem.

He said people should use their lake associations as a resource.

"Cooperation with lake associations should be front of mind, particularly because they are working with organizations such as the Haliburton County Master Gardeners, U-Links, Abbey Gardens, etc. You can get more informed decision-making potential by checking in versus just going off on your own."

The Highlander asked the MNR how one obtains a permit, and how it ensures work is done properly. We did not have a response as of press time.

To report a natural resource problem, or provide information about an unsolved case, members of the public can call the ministry TIPS line toll free at 1-877-847-7667. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS. For more information about unsolved cases, visit ontario.ca/MNRTips.

Minden Hills looking for flood victims

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) is looking for owners of 10-12 private properties in Minden Hills to gauge damage from April flooding.

The township said this week that a provincial disaster assessment team will be in the community for one day, likely in the first half of June. They are looking to get a representative sample of damage. However, no eligibility or funding decisions will be made during the visit.

"In determining whether to activate the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program, the MMAH is looking to assess damage within the township following the April flood event," the municipality said.

DRAO is a provincial program that, if activated by the MMAH, helps eligible private property owners with essential clean-up and repair costs after a natural disaster. If the program is activated, insurance must be used first. Assistance focuses on essential repairs and clean-up.

To qualify, it must be your primary residence, so cottages and seasonal properties are not eligible; small businesses; properties with damage caused by river/creek overflow or overland flooding; properties with damage to essential components (e.g., furnace, hot water tank, structural elements); properties affected only by sewer backup or with only minor damage are not recommended for assessment. The owner must consent to the visit.

If you are willing to have your property considered e-mail flood2026@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-1260 ext. 504 by June 3.

The township will select properties that meet the MMAH property criteria; are within the flood zone; and are available on the set date. *(Lisa Gervais)*

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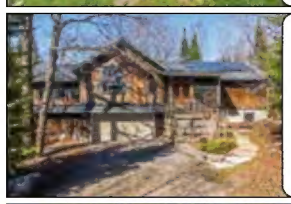

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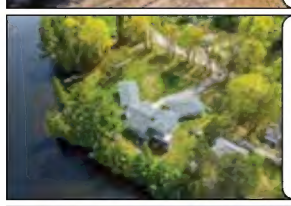

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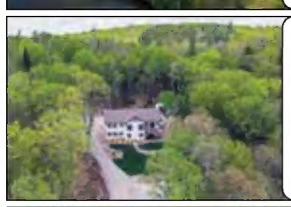

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Highlander news

Front-line social workers hit picket line

By Adam Frisk
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Nearly 400 community and social workers in Peterborough, Lindsay, and Haliburton walked off the job on Monday (May 25), and joined a coordinated province-wide strike of 4,500 public sector employees.

Members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) Local 358 are striking against Community Living Trent Highlands. The workers are demanding a 6.5 per cent retroactive wage increase and a strict "no layoffs" guarantee following the repeal of Ontario's unconstitutional Bill 124, which capped public sector wage increases at one per cent.

Direct provincial ministry staff received financial remedies after the wage-cap legislation was struck down, but community-based public service sectors were excluded.

"Because the cost of living keeps going up, the time is now," local union president Jessica Bushey told *The Highlander*.

The Local 358 president said that even top-earning, long-term staff who have specialized degrees are having to take on secondary jobs or use food banks to make ends meet.

"We have members going to the food bank to not only pick up stuff for the folks we support because they can't afford it either, but neither can we," Bushey said. "There's something wrong here, right?"

Members of OPSEU Local 358 hit the picket line in Haliburton on May 25. *Photo by Adam Frisk*

The union boss noted that, according to the financial accountability officer, her sector faces an ongoing $1.5 billion provincial funding shortfall. Bushey said workers report that the underfunding directly impacts vulnerable residents, adding that some supported individuals are left with food budgets of just $14 a day.

In a statement to *The Highlander*, the provincial government said it has "made historic investments in the development services sector, including nearly $4 billion this year, an increase of $1.6 billion since we took office in 2018 to provide people with access to the services they need, when they need them.

"While collective bargaining is a matter between the employer and the union, we expect every service provider to have strong contingency plans to protect residents and ensure their care is never disrupted," a spokesperson said.

The labour dispute faced a critical deadline this week, when Community Living Trent Highlands forced a final offer vote through the Ontario Labour Relations Board. Local union leadership fiercely urged members to vote down the proposal.

"They're trying to get us off the strike line, but their deal comes with layoffs," Bushey said. "We shouldn't have to fund a wage increase with the blood of our own members."

Bushey said she's concerned about the health and safety of the vulnerable people the workers care for during the job action, noting that the specialized care is being handled by temporary workers.

OPSEU launched a family landing page on its website to support affected households, and the results of the OLRB vote will be posted on the local's public Facebook page.

Health unit to start testing beaches

Lakelands Public Health is launching its annual beach water monitoring program starting June 15, helping residents and visitors stay safe while enjoying local beaches across the region.

Throughout the summer, LPH staff will monitor water quality at 76 municipally-owned and operated public beaches across the County of Haliburton, City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County, and the City and County of Peterborough.

Water samples are tested for E. coli bacteria, an indicator of potential contamination and increased risk of illness.

New this year, the health unit is installing updated signage at beaches across the region to make water conditions easier to understand. The signs use a clear, three-colour system: green: safe for swimming; yellow: swimming not advised; and red: beach closed.

"Regular beach water monitoring helps protect the health of our communities by identifying potential risks and sharing timely information," said Bernie Mayer, environmental health manager with LPH.

Swimming in contaminated water can lead to gastrointestinal illness, skin rashes, and eye, ear, nose, or throat infections.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to check posted signage and LakelandsPH.ca/BeachCheck before swimming, and avoid entering the water during, and for at least 48 hours after, heavy rainfall.

In addition to regular monitoring, LPH reminds the public to watch for bluegreen algae blooms, which can pose health risks. Suspected blooms should be reported to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Spills Action Centre at 1-866-663- 8477.

Beach water test results are available online throughout the summer season, running until Aug 31. *(Lisa Gervais)*

Lakelands Public Health will begin monitoring water quality at beaches June 15. *File.*

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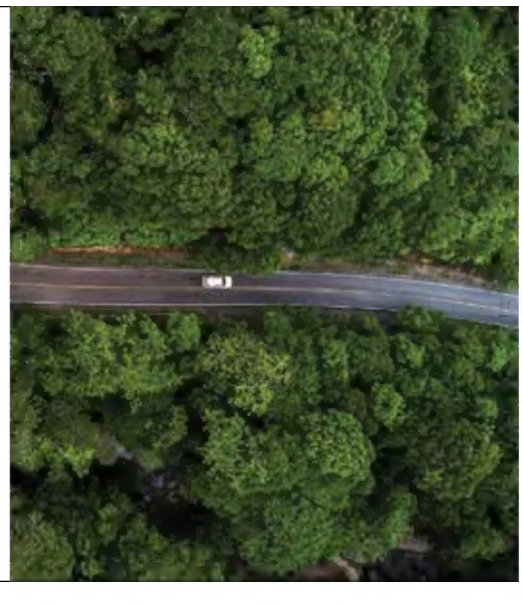

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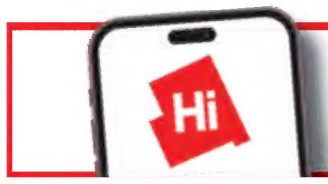

No trolls

Building destroyed at Haliburton Biochar

By Mike Baker

Haliburton Forest Biochar management is still assessing damages after an early morning fire at its Kennaway Road facility May 22 took out one of the business' production buildings.

Malcolm Cockwell, managing director of Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve – the parent company of Biochar, told *The Highlander* the blaze broke out around 1:30 a.m. No injuries were reported.

"Efforts to secure the site and investigate the incident are ongoing. The extent to which the incident will disrupt Haliburton Forest Biochar's operations is yet to be determined," Cockwell said.

Introduced in 2016, the division uses leftover wood chips, shavings and powder from the Forest's sawmill operations to produce biochar – a highly-porous charcoal-like substance primarily used to improve soil health and capture carbon. Acting like a sponge, biochar helps soils retain water and store nutrients.

It's also used in manufacturing, replacing fossil fuel products like carbon black and coal coke during the production of bioplastics, green metals and other materials.

Stacey Parish, deputy fire chief with the Dysart department, said the fire call came into the station at 1:35 a.m., with first responders arriving at 1:55 a.m. She said 22 firefighters from three departments – Dysart, Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East – tackled the blaze, with officials on-scene for 11 hours.

While the fire was reported to the Ontario Fire Marshal, Parish said there's no concern for public safety.

"Nothing to be concerned about as it is a natural product," Parish said.

Jim Demetriou from the fire marshal's office said an investigation is underway.

"At this time, the incident remains under active investigation and there is no information available to share. The Office of the Fire Marshal is unable to provide further comment while the investigation is ongoing," Demetriou said.

Cockwell confirmed clean-up is underway. The fire is the first major incident at the site since Haliburton Forest invested $10 million to expand the division in 2022. The Ontario government pitched in an additional $4.6 million last year to support a transition into engineered biochar, opening the door for more growth in advanced manufacturing.

Three County departments responded to an early morning fire at Haliburton Biochar May 22. *Photo by Adam Frisk.*

No tech bros

Highlander news

Habitat seeks help with loan

By Mike Baker

Habitat for Humanity Peterborough and Kawartha Region is seeking a $12.5 million loan from Infrastructure Ontario to help pay for its planned 35-unit affordable housing build on Peninsula Road in Haliburton.

CEO Susan Zambonin was at County council May 27 to request the upper tier reach-out to provincial officials on Habitat's behalf.

"It would be construction financing for up to three years. Affordable housing projects can be considered for this type of loan," Zambonin told council. "This would help us to have a low-interest loan, as opposed to going through the bank and only getting 60 per cent of what we need as a construction mortgage.

"This is one way the County can help us without costing you anything," she added.

Council did not make a decision, instead directing staff to report back on the request at a future meeting.

Habitat is partnering with County-based non-profit Places for People (P4P) on the project. While Habitat is handling construction, P4P has committed to purchasing 15 of the 35 units, which it intends to offer for rent at below-market rates. Habitat will sell the remaining 20 units to the public through its homeownership program.

To qualify, Zambonin said applicants require a household income that supports homeownership but is less than $95,000 a year, no outstanding debt, and a credit score of 600 or more. People must secure an initial mortgage through an eligible credit union, with Habitat making up the difference through a second mortgage.

Through Habitat's model, Zambonin said people never pay more than 30 per cent of their income towards housing costs – which includes insurance, condo fees and property taxes.

All units will be one and two-bedroom, with Zambonin telling *The Highlander* last fall they will likely be priced under $400,000. The building is slated to be three storeys, with main floor units being mostly accessible. There will be an elevator for people on higher floors.

Planning is well underway with Habitat hiring an architect, Neil Campbell from Aside Architects, and a construction manager, Haliburton resident Travis Braun from Braun Custom Builds. Campbell has worked with Habitat on previous builds, including a recent 41-unit development in Peterborough.

Zambonin said she had a pre-consultation meeting with County and Dysart et al staff last week and hopes to finalize building permits this fall, with the project expected to break ground in 2027.

She's been spending a lot of time in the County since the build was announced last September, making connections with local tradespeople who will help bring the units to life.

"Haliburton has been an incredibly supportive and welcoming community and we at Habitat look forward to breaking ground and launching a build that will offer much-needed affordable ownership and rental units to the County," she said.

Habitat for Humanity's Susan Zambonin and Places for People's Susan Tromanhauser at the site of the 35-unit affordable housing build in Haliburton. *File.*

Bunkie auction

Fundraising efforts are now well underway to help P4P pay its share, with the non-profit's founder, Fay Martin, saying it will likely be millions of dollars.

Local developer Paul Wilson has already committed $500,000 to P4P's cause, part of the proceeds from selling the land on Peninsula Road to Habitat for $1.2 million last year. After bringing in just shy of $60,000 at its annual 'sleeping in cars' event in March, P4P is back at it again with a bunkie auction, running until Canada Day.

Launching May 16, people can bid on a seven-by-10-foot bunkie constructed by volunteers during an annual womens' build retreat Habitat hosted in Haliburton last fall.

"The completed structure was built with one goal in mind: to support the future of affordable housing in Haliburton County. For all 60 women who participated, it was an opportunity to help build something meaningful. For many, it was their first time swinging a hammer or using construction tools," Zambonin said.

"It takes a village to build a home – and an even bigger village to build 35," she added.

All the materials for the bunkie were provided by Habitat, who donated the finished structure to P4P.

The bunkie is valued at $7,500, with the top bid as of press time $4,000. People have until 11:55 p.m. June 30 to register their interest. The winning bid will be announced by P4P on Canada Day.

"Whether it's storage, a guest bunkie or a creative retreat, this is your chance to add something truly unique to your property," said P4P president Susan Tromanhauser. "The structure is solid, thoughtfully crafted and full of potential. Finish it your way and make it your own."

P4P said it will deliver the bunkie within a 50-kilometre radius of Haliburton Home Hardware, where it's being stored. Bids can be made virtually through Zeffy or on information cards at select local businesses.

To place a bid, visit www.placesforpeople.ca/news/bid-on-a-bunkie-with-charity-auction-for-places-for-people.

Other projects

Zambonin also delivered an update on Habitat's partnership with the County to develop 60 affordable units at the Wee Care property in Haliburton.

"We've put together a concept of four different buildings where we could stagger the construction, if necessary, to then be able to provide additional daycare space, should the daycare decide that's what they'd like," she said.

The plan calls for two 16-unit buildings and two 12-unit buildings, with space for a new daycare facility. There's currently no timeline for breaking ground.

Zambonin revealed Habitat has also made an offer to purchase the Haliburton Heights timeshare building at 1699 Wigamog Rd.

Their plan is to convert the property into 22 condos for affordable home ownership – six studios, six one-bedroom units and 10 two-bed units. She noted the project would require rezoning and an amendment to Dysart's official plan.

"It's a very well-maintained property… we have met with a few councillors from Dysart and had conversations with the planning department," Zambonin said.

She asked County council to go to Infrastructure Ontario to request a further $3.5 million loan that Habitat will use as acquisition financing. For both, this project and the one on Peninsula Road, Zambonin said Habitat would aim to pay back the loan over three years, once it has recouped money from selling the units.

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No misinformation
Hi

Melanie Klodt Wong is leaving her role as executive director of the hospital foundation. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Hospital foundation lead looking to grow

By Lisa Gervais

The executive director of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) believes a great deal has been accomplished in her three years, and is now looking for even more professional growth as she returns to school for a Master's degree.

The foundation announced May 25 that Melanie Klodt Wong is stepping down from her role.

Board chair, David Blodgett, thanked Klodt Wong for more than three years of service, saying, "her leadership has contributed to the strong community support we are fortunate to receive and to the very successful 'Here for You in the Highlands' campaign.

Klodt Wong was at the helm for fundraising more than $6 million for a CT scanner and mammography unit.

Klodt Wong told *The Highlander* this week, "I have worked with so many great people and learned so many things, and we have accomplished a ridiculous amount."

She is proud of her work with HHHSF, seeing what volunteers have done with the Matt Duchene charity golf classic. She loves radiothon, and its grassroots community support.

She added she is leaving the foundation in a good place, with a strong board. She noted Haliburton Highlands Health Services has a new CEO, so it's a good time to transition. HHHS appointed Jack Hutchison as its president and chief executive officer, effective March 30.

"And, now, I need growth. I want to do more things," Klodt Wong said.

She will soon be commencing her Master's in philanthropy and not-for-profit leadership at Carleton University. It is a two-year program. She and partner, Wilson Klodt Wong, are staying in Haliburton County.

She is keen to learn more about how philanthropy in Canada works, noting it is very different than other countries, such as the U.S., U.K. and Australia.

"We're not all the same. For example, Canada has the best tax benefits for giving in the world, and yet fewer Canadians are getting tax receipts. The other major benefit in Canada is capital gains."

Donating highly appreciated assets directly to a registered charity allows you to eliminate capital gains tax while claiming a charitable tax receipt for the full fair market value. This provides a significantly higher tax benefit than selling the asset first and donating the cash proceeds.

She will graduate in 2028 and hopes the theory, on top of the practical experience she has had, will set her up well for her next role.

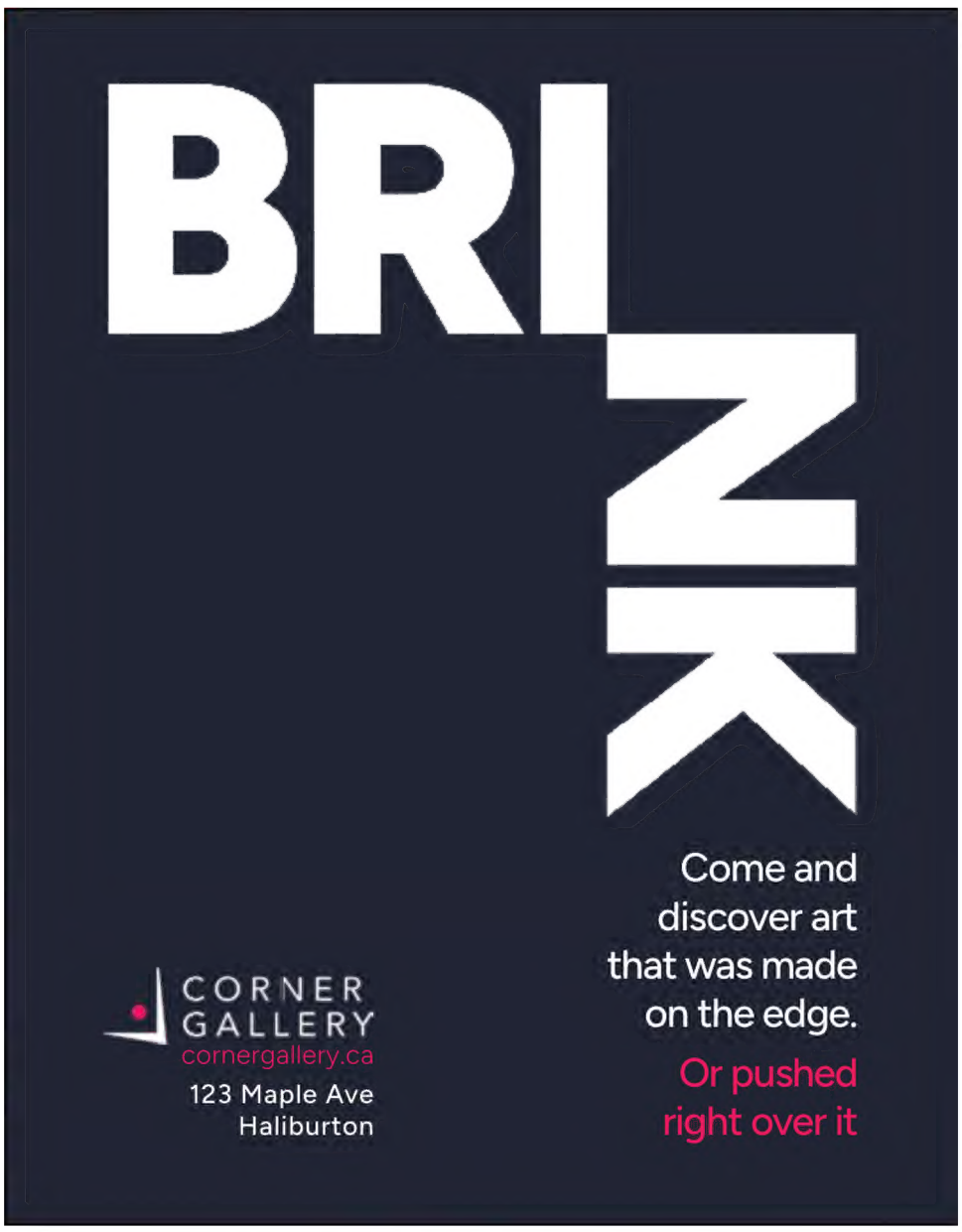
One thing remains the same, however.

"My favourite thing about doing this work is connecting someone who wants to make a difference to something that needs that. And when you put those two things together, it's an amazing thing."

Blodgett added, "all of us on the foundation board extend our sincere thanks to Melanie and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

"The foundation's board of directors is actively preparing for the transition and remains focused on the important work of supporting exceptional health care in our community.

"We thank the community for your ongoing generosity and support."



Editorial opinion

TheHighlander
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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Why The Highlander is launching an online app

By Simon Payn

This week, *The Highlander* is launching a news and information app for Haliburton County. Let me tell you why – and how you can benefit from it.

Three years ago, Meta – the owner of Facebook and Instagram – banned Canadian media companies from posting to its platforms. Overnight, *The Highlander*, along with every other newspaper in the country, couldn't reach people with up-to-the-minute news and information.

There are lots of good things about social media. But there are bad things, too. And once this ban was put in place, the quality of information on Facebook and Instagram deteriorated. Trustworthy news was replaced by rumour...and worse. We saw that happening in Haliburton County, with several cases of false information quickly accelerating into anger and division.

That's terrible for our community. Media companies – *The Highlander* included – made a mistake by relying on social media platforms to spread urgent information. Social media companies are run by people in Silicon Valley who don't care about Haliburton County. They certainly couldn't find it on a map. Their motivations are the opposite of the well-being of this place, and contrary to our mission to tell the story of Haliburton County.

This week, we are changing that with the launch of Hi. It's our news and information app for Haliburton County. There will be no misinformation, no trolls, no AI slop, no tech bros. Just the Highlands.

When you visit (thehighlander.app) you'll see it looks like Facebook. But it's different. There are no algorithms designed to hook you on the app. Instead, the posts are purely chronological. It doesn't track your location, or you, or what you read. There are also no comments allowed.

We realize you might disagree with this last point. You might claim we are trying to control the narrative of Haliburton County. And to some degree we are. Our reporters – Lisa, Mike and Adam – are trained journalists. This means they follow a set of rules so that to the best of their ability, the information you read on *The Highlander* is true. They verify their sources. They check facts. Social media doesn't, which is why you get information that is wrong or harmful.

That's not to say they never make a mistake. They're human, after all. But they're accountable. They have email addresses which are printed in the paper. *The Highlander* has an office in Haliburton village. You see our reporters at events and in the grocery store. And when they make a mistake, they fix it. The same can't be said for social media companies.

For all these reasons, Hi has a slogan: It's nicer here. We already know it's nicer in Haliburton County because of the people who live here. We think the app will be nicer, too. It will be safe, trustworthy, accountable. Nicer.

How to use the app

While you can read the app on your laptop or desktop, the best way is to visit it on your cellphone. Go to thehighlander.app and you will see it. On your first visit, you will get a message encouraging you to install the app on your phone. Click this and the app will appear on your home screen so you can easily find it again.

You don't need to create an account to use the app. But if you do, there are two benefits. First, you can choose which categories you want to see. Second, you can get notifications on your phone. There's a breaking news category, so anytime there is something urgent and important happening in the County, such as a road closure or school bus cancellations, you can get notified. To create an account, just follow the links on the screen.

Who can post

We are offering posting accounts to verified not-for-profits, municipalities, schools, police, and health and service organizations. You'll see we've already started populating the app with some information. If you run one of these organizations, please contact Adam (adam@thehighlander.ca) and he can set you up.

Advertising

We will be offering a limited number of advertising spots on the app. This is how we can afford the operating costs. To find out more, contact Aidan (aidan@thehighlander.ca). Unlike social media platforms, we do not collect information about you to target you with ads. All our ads are for people in Haliburton County. Period. Just like the paper. That's why the ads work.

I hope you enjoy the app and find it helpful. As it's new, we expect teething troubles. Please bear with us. If you have any feedback, email editor@thehighlander.ca.

Simon Payn is co-owner and former publisher of The Highlander.

We want to hear from you

Send us your opinion on any and all things related to living here in the County. Letters (300 words maximum) can be sent to editor@thehighlander.ca

What the HALIBURTON PODCAST

A PODCAST ABOUT ALL THINGS LOCAL

AVAILABLE AT THEHIGHLANDER.CA
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THIS WEEK:

Ottawa Update with MP Jamie Schmale

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Saving prom

Dear editor,

On Saturday evening, a tree fell in the forest and many people heard it.

Dates were made, dresses purchased, hair done, makeup on, shoes shined, ties tied, decorations up, food being prepped and as the young adults arrived to enjoy their evening of prom celebration, a tree fell and the power went out.

One of the many benefits of living in a small town is everyone knows someone. In this case, the principal had a friend at Hydro One. Calls were made and literally within minutes plans were put in place to try and save prom.

It was a long shot. Power lines were opened to prevent feedback; other lines were closed to create a path for hydro to flow around the downed lines and jumpers put in place to get the power to the prom. Within an hour, the final switch was flipped, fingers crossed and the lights came on. Huge cheers were heard from the students with many thanks to the hydro workers.

I personally would like to say thank you to the hydro crews that were on site Saturday night. I witnessed these dedicated employees work in the cold rain, literally running from location to location in a gargantuan effort to save prom.

I would also like to thank the teachers, chaperones and volunteer helpers, who with the Sir Sam's team, created backup plans and kept everything very positive. Lastly, a big thank you and congratulations to the students attending prom. This was your night and you took the delays and changes in stride. All in all, it was a night to remember.

Dave Bishop
General manager
Sir Sam's Ski/Ride

Lives at risk

Dear editor,

It will be interesting to hear what Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock Member of Provincial Parliament Laurie Scott has to say about the fact that now that speed cameras have been removed, the number of speeders has increased dramatically as per the recent *Toronto Star* article.

Premier Doug Ford's decision to remove speed cameras before any solution was in place has resulted in the predicted consequences.

Lives are now at risk because of him.

Steve Glover
Haliburton

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Gather nuts … find enlightenment … gather more nuts. Editor Lisa Gervais captured this image of a chipmunk on a Buddha head.

SAWDUST STORIES

Every day is a step

By Darren Lum

There's a labyrinth in my mind that I walk, reminding me life is about each step.

Some will be easy. Some will be hard when I need more effort to move forward. When I look too far ahead, I lose sight of the process, focusing on the horizon instead of the step in front of me.

The beauty of peace comes from fulfilment, finding satisfaction in the effort, and meaning in the result, even without victory. True triumph lies in transformation; it rises above winning.

Every day is a step.

Most of us will spend our lives working in one form or another.

It's easy to lose oneself to a daily grind, running on autopilot for much of a week, getting lost in distraction, whether by a screen or despondence.

Be proud of your work, your life. Feel excited about the next day, the next week, the next month, the next year.

The culmination of efforts becomes something larger than ourselves.

Legacy isn't what most set out to achieve. It happens over weeks, months, years, and decades.

I never set out to create a legacy when I came to Haliburton County. It came with the newspaper job, writing about and photographing life here.

My two decades working in journalism taught me respect for quality, attention to detail, and the importance of contributing to a community. The Highlands is my home and working for the newspaper allowed me to write about its neighbours, friends and stakeholders with care. Every line etched into memory, preserving the community's history as it lived.

The term legacy carries weight, typically associated with well-known figures of industry, social movements or countries, but anyone can create one. It's more than ego. It comes from care. From contributing to the lives of others. Like footprints in the sand, we leave our mark for however long and then they're gone. If it has made an impression that lasts, it's a signature to a contract of substance that enriches the lives of others. It hasn't quite been a year for me in construction, but the buildings I've worked on will stand as a similar testament to the work I contributed – a living legacy for a life lived. As I develop my building skills, even small efforts become contributions and opportunities to leave my mark – stained boards, painted spindles, drip caps, a stone fireplace. Each piece matters because I cared.

"I have led a toothless life. I've never bitten into anything. I was waiting. I was reserving myself for later on. Now, I've just noticed that my teeth are gone." — attributed to Jean-Paul Sartre, source unverified.

What would the 90-year-old me think of me? What would the 10-year-old me think of my life? What would they wish I did more of? My father's life has given me a quiet answer to that question.

Seeing my father in his twilight years, I see a man that led an honest life where hard work was the bedrock of his legacy.

He can't say he's proud of his life, but I can. I'm proof he existed and embody the qualities of generosity and kindness because of him.

The labyrinth ends for all of us eventually. What matters is how we walked it.

What we leave behind doesn't need to last forever – only long enough to matter.

Correction: A photo in the May 21 *Highlander,* County of Haliburton news, page 5 identified the subject as County IT director, Michael March. The picture was actually of Marc Jones. *The Highlander* apologizes for the error.

Clarification: In 'Animal clinic offers after-hours advice' in the May 21 *Highlander*, we indicated Haliburton County vets are not open on weekends. However, Haliburton Veterinary Services is open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Highlander business

Just the Highlands

ALL ABOUT HI, THE HIGHLANDER'S NEW APP

Why we made it

Three years ago, Meta banned Canadian media companies from Facebook and Instagram. Since then, the quality of information on these platforms has deteriorated. Instead of trustworthy news, there is misinformation, anger, and division. We believe that's bad for Haliburton County.

We created this app to solve that problem: to make a space that is just for our community, without the downsides of social media.

What's on it

You'll find verified, accurate news from our reporters, including breaking news alerts. You will also find information from local not-for-profits, service organizations and municipalities. The feed is in strict chronological order – there's no algorithm to track or manipulate you.

How to get it

The best way is to go to thehighlander.app on your cellphone On your first visit, you'll get a message encouraging you to install the app on your phone. Click this and the app will appear on your home screen so you can easily find it again.

How to use it

You don't need to create an account to use the app. But if you do, there are two benefits. First, you can choose which categories you want to see. Second, you can get notifications on your phone. There's a breaking news category, so anytime there is something urgent and important happening in the county, you can be notified. To create an account, just follow the links on the screen.

Why you can't comment on it

We know you might enjoy commenting on Facebook. But a downside of comments is that misinformation can spread. Without moderation, which is an impossible job for us, the value of the app would be lost. The Highlander's reporters are trained journalists, which means they follow rules so that what they post is as accurate as possible. They are also accountable because they live and work in our community. If they make a mistake, readers tell us – and we fix it. We hope that this approach will create an environment that is useful and pleasant.

How to advertise on Hi

We will be funding the app by offering a limited number of spots to local advertisers who want to reach people in Haliburton County. For more information, contact Aidan (aidan@thehighlander.ca).

How to give us feedback

Email Adam (adam@thehighlander.ca) or stop by our office in Haliburton village.

It's nicer here

Hi has a slogan: It's nicer here. Imagine getting all your important news and information about Haliburton County from a trustworthy source. No algorithms, no trolls, no lies. Just 100% pure news and information. It's calm and friendly. It's real. Just like our beautiful Highlands. It's nicer here.

thehighlander.app

Tina Gilbert is the owner of Fresh & Co. Home and Property. *Submitted.*

Business expands to home and property

By Lisa Gervais

Tina Gilbert started Fresh & Clean Housekeeping in 2018, but quickly realized she was doing a lot more than tidying homes.

A licensed private nurse, she was helping folks with other things around the house; ranging from picking up and putting away groceries, to reminding elderly people to take their medications. She also called other service providers to meet customer needs, such as shovelling walkways.

"One of my clients actually asked me if I had ever kept track of how much stuff I farmed out, things such as leaf blowing decks. Two years ago, I did, and I thought 'I need to redo something because that's literally a whole other full-time job that I've given to other people'."

She has rebranded her business to Fresh & Co. Home and Property, expanding services across Haliburton County and Kawartha Lakes.

Gilbert said the name change reflects an even greater commitment to serving homes, families, and the broader community.

Gilbert told *The Highlander* the company had grown steadily through word-of-mouth referrals and a reputation for reliability, discretion, and exceptional care.

"Fresh & Co. Home and Property will continue to provide the detailed housekeeping services clients know and trust, while formally expanding into property maintenance and home support services," she said.

Gilbert added the expanded offerings include: lawn care, trimming, snow removal, seasonal cottage checks, garbage removal, light maintenance, errands, medication reminders, senior check-ins, post-hospital support, respite services, and practical home assistance for families.

"Our goal has always been to provide dependable care. Now, we're doing that on a broader scale."

The business owner said the rebrand is much more than a name change. She said it reflects her long-term investment in the community. "We are expanding thoughtfully, creating meaningful employment, introducing staff benefits, and building a company that supports both the families we serve and the people who work with us."

The company's growth includes expanded team hours and the introduction of staff benefits, reinforcing Gilbert's commitment to supporting local workers and strengthening the region's service economy.

As services grow, the company is actively recruiting additional team members who share its values of integrity, consistency, and community care.

Gilbert said she would like to see her team grow to three full-timers excluding herself, and at least half-a-dozen part-timers.

She said she has always wanted to create full-time, year-round work for people in the County, versus seasonal jobs. She added she'd like to think her company is supporting seniors to age in place better, by having the supports they need.

Gilbert said lots of people have family and friends around, but some are busy working and have their own family commitments. She added no two clients or their needs, are the same, so they customize the cleaning and home and property care.

"At the end of the day, this business is about people," Gilbert added. "It's about helping seniors remain safe and comfortable at home, supporting busy families, caring for homes and cottages year-round, and making life a little easier for our neighbours. We're proud to grow in a way that truly strengthens the community we call home."

For more information about Fresh & Co. Home and Property and its expanded services, visit freshandco.ca

It's nicer here

Highlander arts

Hope Thompson with her book, *Dark Thoughts & Other Stories*, during a recent trip to Haliburton. *Submitted.*

Dying for readers to crack new book

By Lisa Gervais

Readers have been enthralled with crime, and true crime, for as long as the genre has existed and part-time Haliburton resident, Hope Thompson, has added to the bookshelves.

Thompson recently published *Dark Thoughts & Other Stories*: a collection of 11 crime stories, with many having a "noir quality."

She described it as, "set on city streets from the 1930s and 50s, to the present day and beyond, these stories bristle with the grit of noir. While some are lighter, and others darker, all are about people forced by circumstance to escape their situation - or die trying."

Thompson, who splits her time between Haliburton village and Toronto, said she has always been interested in noir. "So, these stories draw on that. They also draw on the cozy crime stories; say Agatha Christie; a little bit of everything. Some of the stories are historical, some are present day."

Thompson said the short stories are mostly driven by "outsider characters; like single women, unmarried women, people who are kind of navigating patriarchy in some way; navigating the world from an outsider space. It's very different from crime stories where it's the male detective as the main lead."

The author noted, "characters are cornered, caught and facing their own demise." For example, an advice columnist receives a letter from a murderer. A drifter obsesses over a serial killer. A painter contemplates her final brush stroke – with death."

As to why people love reading crime and true crime, Thompson said she thinks it's partly escapism.

"The fact the world is in such a horrific place right now. It's, ironically, going to a story that involves murder and what have you, as a form of escapism. It almost always is, and has been, since the invention of the genre. It's always had this popularity and is the highest-selling genre."

This is Thompson's first book of short stories. She is also working on a novel. Add to that, a true crime project with Ellen White of the podcast *Whereabouts Unknown*.

Thompson has worked in film and television, including writing for the CBC sketch comedy hit *Baroness Von Sketch Show*. She has a future project with a production company in the Yukon. She also does freelance work to help pay the bills. Thompson has also taught courses for Haliburton School of Art + Design.

Asked how she keeps track of it all, she said it comes down to time management.

"I've got a white board with a lot of deadlines, some of which I have missed. I keep writing up lists and trying to strike things off."

Dark Thoughts & Other Stories is available on Amazon, and at Master's Book Store In Haliburton.

Thompson also plans to bring the book to Bookapalooza in Minden June 20. She hopes to plan another book reading event while in town for that. "I'm looking forward to being at my first Bookapalooza."

ADVERTORIAL

Can't live, if living is without you

By Simon Payn

It's the trout lilies that tell me spring is here.

Not long after the snow melts I notice their dark green leaves with brown spots. Which is how trout lilies get their name.

And shortly after that, some of these plants produce brave yellow flowers.

Trout lilies spread thanks to ants. Before bees and butterflies are around, ants are busy. Maybe you noticed them in your kitchen this spring? The trout lily wraps its seed in a fat-rich packet, which the ant takes to its nest to feed its larvae.

The ants then chuck the seed in the colony's waste dump, which is rich in nitrogen. The perfect place for a new trout lily to grow.

It's like the trout lily pays the ant in food to spread its seed.

Stems and bees

The dead stems of mountain mint, aster and milkweed are still standing at my Lucas House garden in Haliburton, even as the new growth is starting to show.

During the season, mother bees bore their way into the stems, lay eggs and leave a ball of pollen and nectar for the emerging larvae, which then spend a cozy winter in the stem's cavity. They'll emerge when the weather gets consistently warm.

Small carpenter bees are suited to boring into stems. And stems are suited to providing nests for carpenter bees. The bees have a creche and the plants have pollinators for next summer.

Columbines and hummingbirds

I heard my first hummingbird last week. It's a sign of the times that I thought it was a drone. But then it hovered past me. Perhaps it was on its way to some wild columbine. I planted a bunch of this on my property a few years ago and it's starting to spread.

Columbine's draw is its bright red flowers. These open up just in time for the hummingbirds' arrival, and they're adapted so hummingbirds can insert their beaks and lap up the nectar. Everything about columbine says "I'm for hummingbirds": the bright red colour, the tubular shape, the length of the flower and the way it curves.

> Everything about wild columbine says "I'm for hummingbirds." The bird gets fed after a long journey north and the plant gets pollinated.

The hummingbird gets fed after a long journey north and the columbine gets pollinated. Over time, flower and bird have got closer to each other, more precisely matched. A stronger partnership.

Milkweeds and monarchs

I picked up some swamp milkweed from Haliburton Micromeadows on the weekend. They were year-old plants and the stems were emerging, just as they are back at my HQ.

The monarch butterflies aren't here yet but when they arrive, the milkweed will be ready.

Those butterflies aren't the same ones that were here last year – they're two or three generations on from that.

When they get here, I will see eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises, and adult butterflies on the milkweeds through the summer.

Milkweed is poisonous to most animals: it produces a toxin that stops the heart. That deters herbivores from eating the juicy leaves.

But the monarch has adapted to the poison and uses the toxicity to its advantage because it now becomes poisonous, too. Its bright orange colour is a warning to other creatures – I'm dangerous, don't eat me!

Milkweed and monarch are in an arms race. The milkweed gets more poisonous and the monarch adapts to it and gets more poisonous, too. Both get safer.

And both are locked in a relationship that's lasted millions of years.

Simon Payn owns Grounded, which designs, installs and cares for ecological landscapes and shorelines. Visit groundedgardens.ca.

Junior highlanders

Hi thehighlander.app

We clean up nice

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School celebrated the class of 2026 during prom on Saturday at Sir Sam's Ski/Ride. While the celebration hit a small snag at the start, with a power outage across Eagle Lake, the party eventually got underway about an hour behind schedule once hydro crews worked to get the lights back on.

Above: Sydney Copeland adjusts Alex Cooney's boutonniere. Top right: Hailey Smith plays keep-up while Lara Gallant reacts while the power was out at prom. Bottom right: Freyja Neimann-Rowe, Elizabeth Mathews, Megan Mould, Jana Kim, Rosie Lafleur, Peyton Daniels pose for a photo at prom. *Photos by Adam Frisk.*

Soaring to gold

The girls' soccer program at Hal High scored an impressive double win last week, with both the junior and senior teams securing the Kawartha A championship. Playing in Norwood May 19, the junior team defeated Campbellford 2-0 in the final to be crowned champions, with the senior side coming from behind to beat the host school 3-2 in the senior final. Both teams qualified for the Central Ontario Secondary Schools Association (COSSA) finals, which were played in Norwood May 26, but lost in the semi-finals to end their season. *(Mike Baker)*

Above: Lara Gallant puts everything into her kick in the senior Red Hawks 6-0 Kawartha championship semi-final victory over Peterborough's Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute. Right: Lexi Dacey sets herself to send the ball towards goal. *Photos submitted.*

47th Annual

HALIBURTON Home & COTTAGE SHOW

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026
3:00 pm - 8:00 pm

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

AJ LaRue Arena &
Haliburton Curling Club
750 Mountain Street,
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Admission: Adults - $5
Children under 12 - Free

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Free Doggie Daycare

Free Face Painting Saturday & Sunday

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One ballot per person upon entry.

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2 Night Stay at Buttermilk Falls Resort

2 Ultra Comfy Camp Chairs
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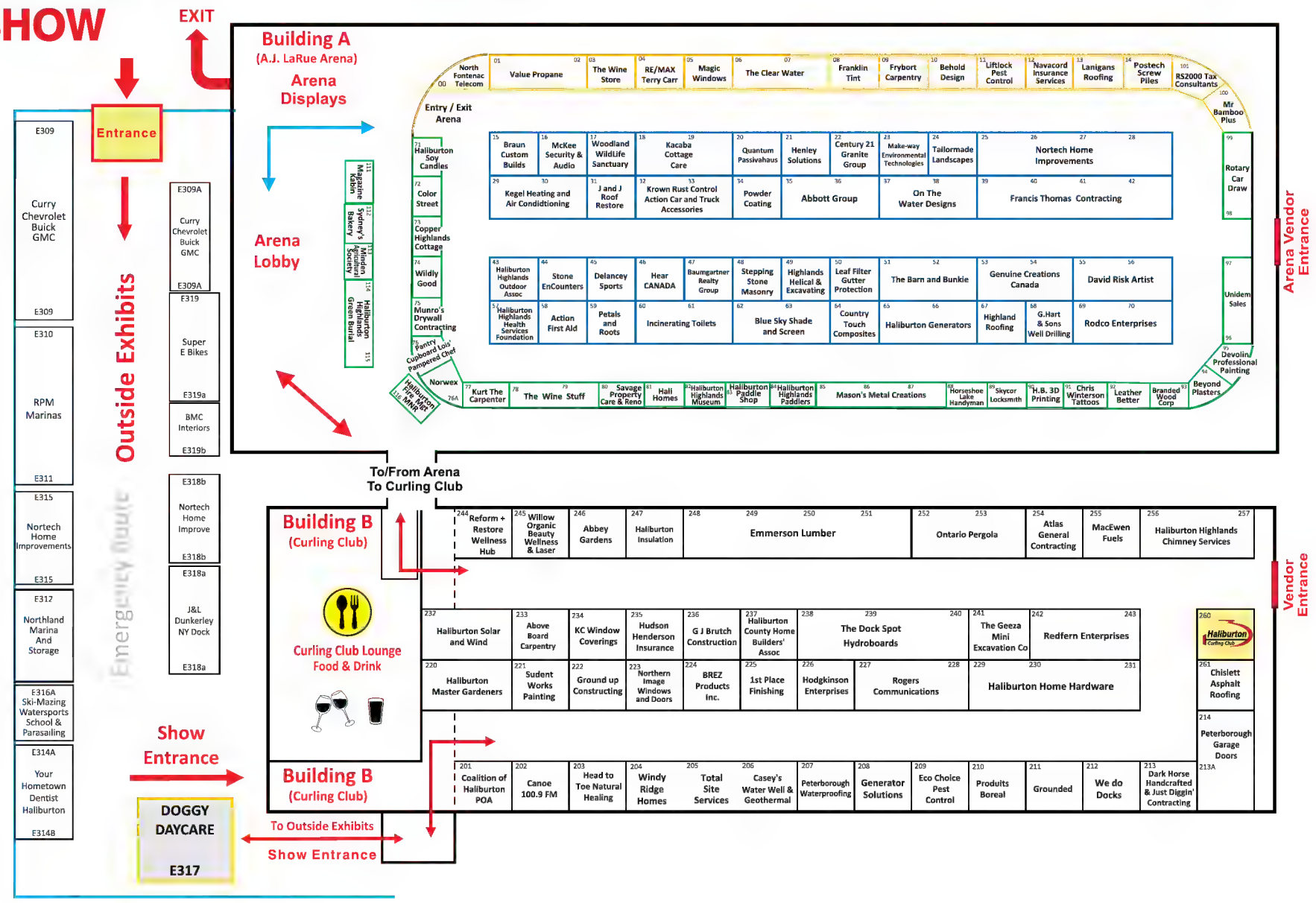

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Haliburton Home and Cottage Show

Lots of new faces at show

By Mike Baker

Despite being involved on the organizing side for more than 30 years, Andy Glecoff still gets excited when the annual Haliburton Home and Cottage show comes around.

Now into its 47th year, the annual spring event takes over the Haliburton Curling Club and A.J. LaRue Arena May 29 to 31. Glecoff said it's another sellout, with 150 vendors confirmed – including 29 first-time attendees.

"We've been sold out and fully booked for eight weeks. There were 54 new registrations from people that have never been to the show before, but because of the returning vendors we could only fit so many of them in," Glecoff said. "We have seen some turnover, but this show has gained a great recognition and reputation in the industry. Businesses want to be involved."

Promoted as a one-stop shop for Highlands property owners looking to spruce up their home or cottage – or find some shiny new toys to play with, Glecoff said this year's show features everything from local contractors and tradespeople to home décor specialists, landscapers, watersport providers and those working in the beauty, travel and alternate energy industries.

Popular returning vendors include Home Hardware, Emmerson Lumber, Kegel Heating and Cooling and outdoor exhibitors NorTech, RPM Marinas, Curry Motors and Ski-Mazing Watersports.

The featured guest is also a familiar face – County-based artist David Alexander Risk. Renowned for his plein air paintings of wildlife and nature captured live, Risk is a big deal in the art world. He has paintings on display at several public and private collections, including at Casa Loma in Toronto and Buckingham Palace in London, England.

"David is going to have an active booth where I think he'll be painting live. He's also provided us with an exclusive original piece that will be the first prize in our entry draw," Glecoff said, noting everyone who pays the $5 admission will be in with a chance of winning. Other prizes include a weekend getaway to Buttermilk Falls Resort and two luxurious camping chairs, donated by Glecoff's Family Store.

Artist David Alexander Risk will be at the home show. *File.*

With up to 3,000 people expected to attend over the three days, Glecoff said the Haliburton show has become one of the best in Ontario.

"We have folks who run the circuit – so they go to shows in Lindsay, Fenelon Falls, Barrie and Orillia and they say we stand on our own, that this is one of the most successful shows anywhere," Glecoff said.

There will be opportunities for people to keep on top of their health and hygiene, too. Glecoff said Your Hometown Dentist is bringing a travelling trailer, with staff offering free tooth examinations, while Hear Canada is bringing a device that will let people peer inside their own ear.

The popular on-site doggy daycare service, where people can leave their four-legged friends while they wander the exhibitor halls, is back, while Glecoff said the new-and-improved kitchen at the curling club will be open for orders. The snack bar at the arena will also be open.

The show runs Friday from 3 to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visit the **Haliburton Highlands Museum** at Booth A82 to learn about our upcoming events and programs for Summer 2025!

Open Tuesday to Sunday and Holiday Mondays 10am-5pm

A82

705-457-2760

66 Museum Road, on the outskirts of Haliburton Village

www.haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com

C202

Visit us at the Home & COTTAGE SHOW & Win!

Stop by the Canoe FM booth for a chance to win a Canoe FM prize package.

CANOE 100.9 & 97.1 FM

We'd love to say hello!

See you May 30th, 31th & June 1st

Haliburton Curling Club & A.J. LaRue Arena

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Haliburton Home and Cottage Show

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Longtime Haliburton Home and Cottage Show organizer, Andy Glecoff looks forward to the event. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Funds reinvested in curling

The show is organized by volunteers from the Haliburton Curling Club, which uses the proceeds to finance things like its 'learn to curl' and youth training programs.

"We focus on development as much as possible. We invest heavily in our youth curling program. Kids are bused in every week for sessions," home show spokesperson Andy Glecoff said. "We've developed many reputable Canadian curlers over the years, including Jacob Dobson, Liam Little, Jessica Byers, Owen Nicholls and Connor Duhaime."

Dobson and Nicholls are national college and university champions who have also had a taste of the pro game – Dobson in 2024, when he competed at the Pointsbet Invitational against Brad Gushue and Nicholls in 2026, appearing at the Ontario Tankard.

Duhaime has also played at the Tankard and in 2021 competed for a spot on Team Canada's Olympic roster. Little and Byers performed well on the collegiate circuit, with Byers now representing the Philippines' national team.

"It's a tremendous program that gives kids a great education on the sport. Curling is growing leaps and bounds in Canada, so this is one of our most important programs," Glecoff said.

Through 'learn to curl', adults can get six weeks of play for a nominal fee. Glecoff said most of the people who sign up go on to become full-fledged members. Money is also used to offset annual fees for curlers, making it more affordable for people to play, and for hosting seminars on various curling skills and tactics, including game strategy, sweeping and throwing.

"We have a pretty dynamic club. There's always lots going on – there's curling every day, pretty much. We run a full schedule Monday to Friday, morning, afternoon and evening," Glecoff said. *(Mike Baker)*

A43
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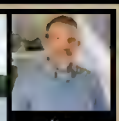

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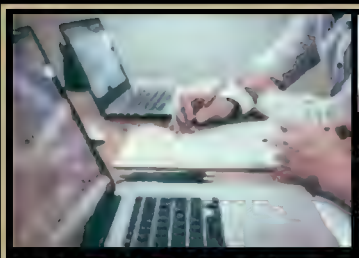

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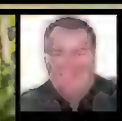

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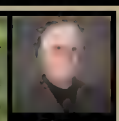

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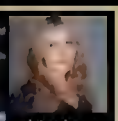

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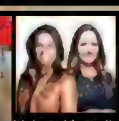

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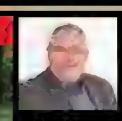

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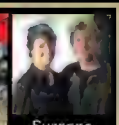

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- Year-Round Access, 2-Lake Chain

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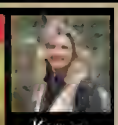

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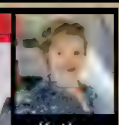

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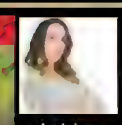

Ashley McKeigue* (705) 854-1833

Minden Home
- 4-Bdrm, 2-Bath, 2,200 SqFt, 1.5 Acres
- Private, Covered Porch, Main Flr Laundry
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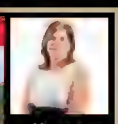

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- 3+1bd, 2ba, Large, sun-filled lot, Private
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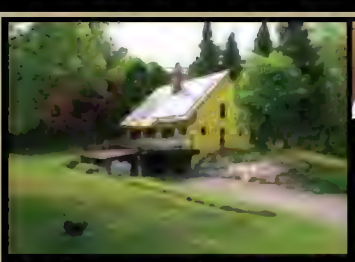

Christine Sharp* (416) 566-1592

Kushog Lake Road $699,000
- 4 Beds/2 Baths, 3,500 SqFt, 1.29 Acres
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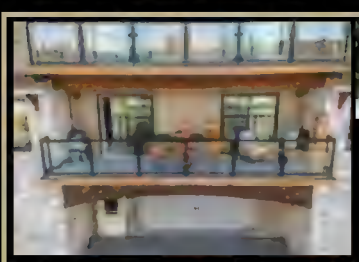
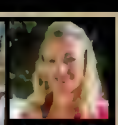

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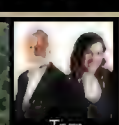

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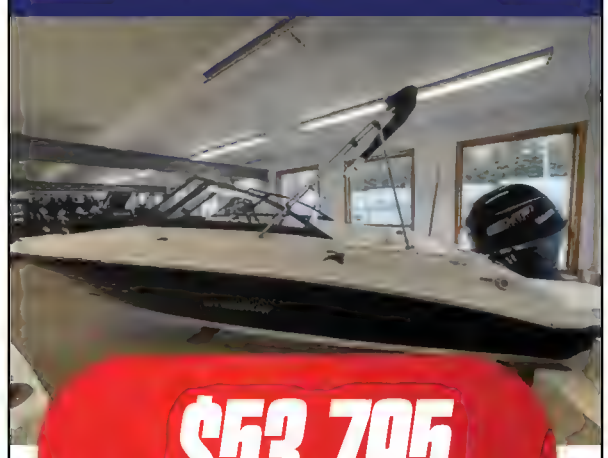

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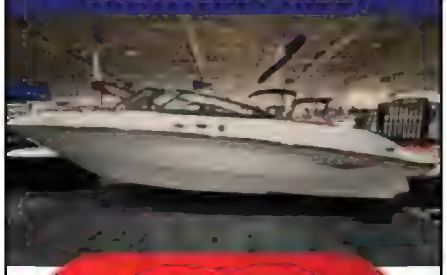
Yamaha VF115 SHO, Ski pole, Bimini top, Tilt Steering, Battery Switch

MONTEREY M22



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Mercruiser 4.5 250Hp, Tonneau & Bow cover, Bimini top, Seadek Throughout

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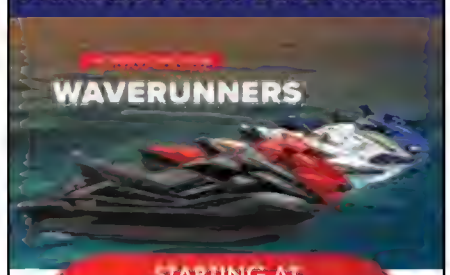

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Highlander outdoors

A fishy move

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association Fish Hatchery was a busy spot May 15 with volunteers clearing the outdoor pond of commercial rainbow trout. The fish were moved from the pond to inside the facility before being transferred to private ponds and lakes. *Photos by Adam Frisk.*

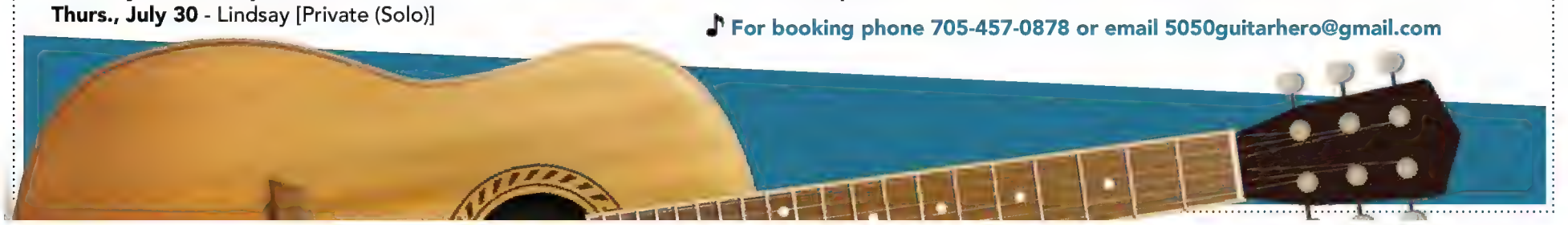
Above: Volunteer Rob Willis nets a bunch of fish from the pond. Top right: A volunteer gets the net ready ahead of the dragging of the pond. Bottom right: Dave Moss carefully dumps the rainbow trout into an oxygenated holding tank.

GORD KIDD & FRIENDS

Summer Schedule 2026

Tues., June 2 - Dominion Hotel, (Solo) 5-7 pm
Sat., June 6 - Sir Sam's Inn and Spa 8-10 (Trio)
Fri., June 12 - Cannington Private Event (Solo)
Fri, June 19 - Buttermilk Falls Resort [Private (Trio)]
Thurs., June 25 - Bancroft BBQ [Private (Solo)]
Fri., June 26 - Lindsay Private Event (Solo)
Sat., June 27 - Bonnieview (Trio) 4-8 pm
Tues., June 30 - Lindsay Private Event (Solo)
Wed., July 1 - Private Event
Wed., July 1 - Bobcaygeon Private Event
Wed., July 1 - Kinmount Canada Day (Quartet) 6-9 pm
Thurs., July 2 - Dominion Hotel (Solo) 5-7 pm
Sat., July 4 - Sir Sam's Inn & Spa (Trio) 8-10 pm
Sat., July 11 - Dominion Hotel (Trio) 5-8 pm
Thurs., July 16 - Staff Party [Private (Trio)]
Thurs., July 23 - Cannington [Private (Trio)]
Fri., July 24 - Lindsay [Private (Solo)]
Thurs., July 30 - Lindsay [Private (Solo)]
Fri., July 31 - Bancroft [Private (Solo)] 2 shows
Sat., August 1 - Haliburton Midnight Madness (Quartet) 7-10 pm
Thurs., August 6 - Dominion Hotel (Solo) 5-7 pm
Fri., August 7 - Minden Music in the Park - Fairgrounds (Quartet) 7-9 pm
Sat., August 8 - Wilberforce Fair 11-12:30 pm Country • 1-5 pm Rock (Quartet)
Sat., August 8 - Minden Dock Party [Private (Quartet)] 8-11 pm
Sun., August 9 - Drag Lake Dock Party [Private (Quartet)]
Wed., August 12 - Bonnieview (Quartet) 5-8 pm
Sat., August 15 - Dominion Hotel (Trio) 5-8 pm
Tues., August 18 - Lindsay [Private]
Wed., August 19 - Millenial Park Bancroft (Quartet) 7-9 pm
Fri., August 21 - Bancroft 3-4 pm • Bancroft 5:45 pm (Solo) 2 shows
Gord away to the East Coast until September 2nd playing wherever
Thurs., September 3 - Dominion Hotel (Solo) 5-7 pm
Sat., September 5 - 2 pm Bancroft, Sir Sam's Inn and Spa 8-10 pm (Trio)
Sun., September 6 - Davis Lake Dock Party 1-3 pm
Fri. / Sat., September 11 & 12 - Vet to Vet Wilberforce [Private (Duo)]

For booking phone 705-457-0878 or email 5050guitarhero@gmail.com



Highlander events

Skipping over water

Snowmobiles on water may have been an usual sight for many as the Ontario Watercross Racing Association hosted a two-day event at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre last weekend where dozens of racers competed in the sport. It was the first of two competitions scheduled to take place at the Pinestone this season, with the other set for Sept 26 weekend. *Photos by Adam Frisk.*

Mark your calendar

Waste Management Events

NewTo You Community YardSale

Saturday, July 4, 2026 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Parking lot of A.J. LaRue Arena, 728 Mountain Street Are you seeking that hidden treasure? Looking for a bargain? Ready to start upcycling? Shop multiple yard sales all in one spot!

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, June 20, 2026 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Haliburton Landfill, 222 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton
County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, August 15, 2026 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Harcourt Landfill, 1123 Packard Road, Harcourt
County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, September 12, 2026 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
WestGuilfordLandfill, 11903Hwy 118,West Guilford County of Haliburton residents can drop-off acceptable household hazardous waste with the corrosive, explosive, flammable, and poison symbol.

Great Haliburton Clothing Swap

Haliburton School of Art + Design, 297 College Drive
September 28 to October 2: Drop-off clean and gently-used clothing and accessories.
October3, 2026: At no cost, pick-up, gently-used clothing and accessories from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. While quantities last.

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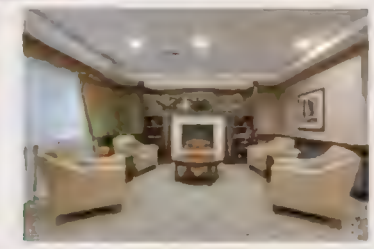

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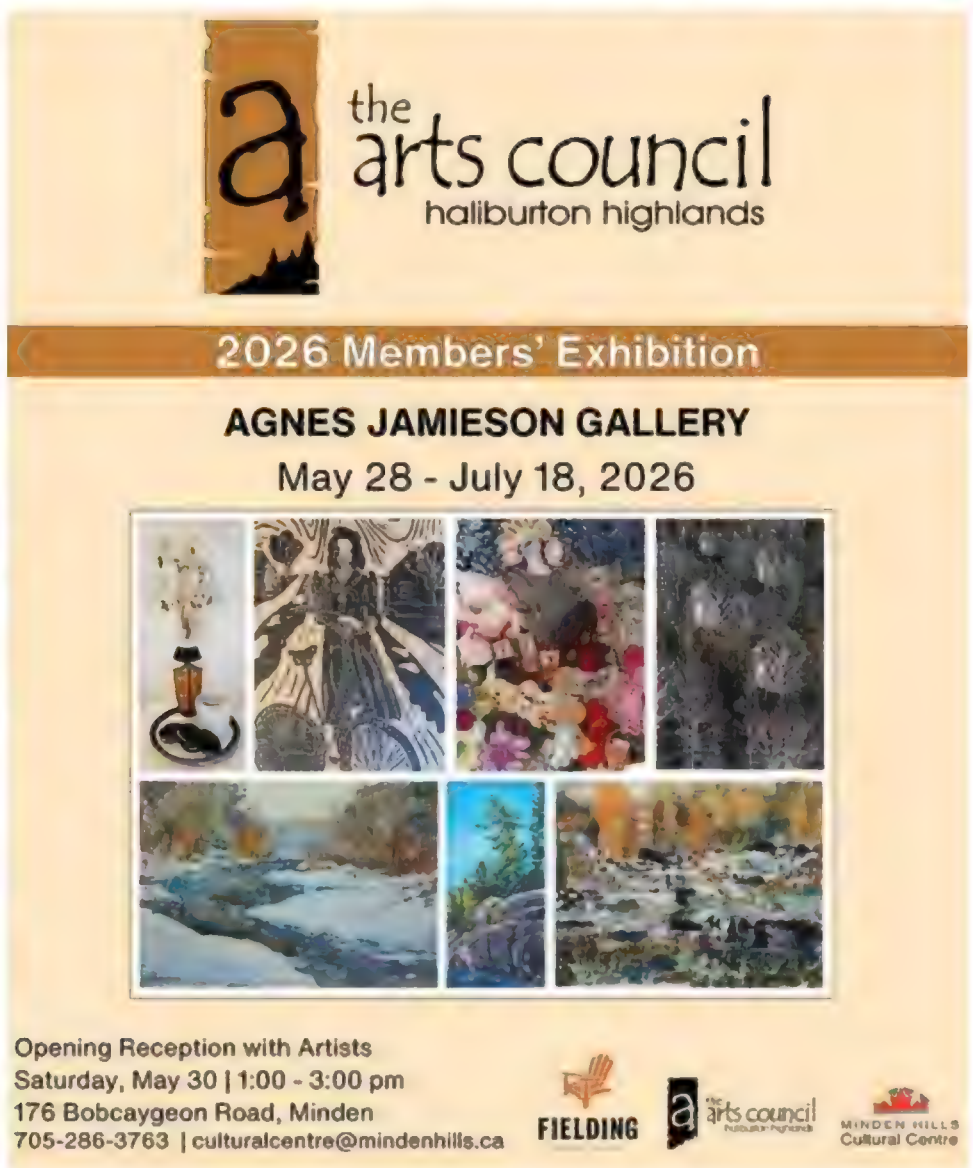
Highlander events

Welcome to the hall

The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame (HHSHOF) 2026 induction ceremony took place Saturday (May 23) at the A.J. LaRue Arena where five athletes, four builders and three teams were honoured and recognized for their endeavours.

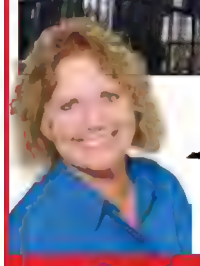
Above: Hall of fame inductee Julia Fedeski pictured with MPP Laurie Scott and Klara Oyler, who was presenting a certificate on behalf of MP Jamie Schmale. Top right: HHSHOF chair Roger Trull presents a plaque to hall of fame inductee Jonathan Bishop. Bottom right: Trull speaks to the crowd at the start of the induction ceremony.
Photos by Adam Frisk.



Highlander community

14 Chandos Street $420,000

1099 Summer Lane $1,175,000



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Those Other Movies
Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
HOLY DAYS
Thursday, June 11
4:15 & 7:15

STARRING JACKI WEAVER, MIRIAM MARGOLYES & JUDY DAVIS

Accompanied by a young Maori boy who is on his own mission related to his recently deceased mother, three unconventional nuns embark on a wild and chaotic road trip across New Zealand to retrieve the deeds to their convent.

www.ThoseOtherMovies.com

ADMIT ONE $10 CASH AT DOOR OR BUY ONLINE AT WEBSITE

F is for falcon

There was a special guest at Those Other Movies' screening of *H is For Hawk* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on May 14. The Royal Canadian Falconry hosted a Q and A with Hara, a Harris' hawk. Amy MacAlpine, owner of the falconry, took questions from the crowd and discussed the life and habits of birds of prey.

Above: Amy MacAlpine, owner of Royal Canadian Falconry, speaks during a Q and A session following the screening of *H is For Hawk* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. *Photo by Adam Frisk.*

Clean up crew

The Wilberforce FUNraisers Group held its first annual community roadside clean-up day May 23. Fifteen people collected 30 bags of garbage in the hamlet area along County Road 648, with unusual items including a lace bra, watch, umbrella and half of an Ontario road sign. Some of the most common items included cigarette butts and used children's diapers. Sunbelt Rentals pitched in, donating safety vests to volunteers with Highlands East township providing plastic gloves and garbage bags. *(Mike Baker)*

Above: FUNraisers Kathy Rogers and Joan Barton show off some of their finds. *Photo courtesy of Barb Schofield.*

Recital celebrates spirit

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton's Skyline Dance Studio will wrap up its season with its year-end recital June 5-7.

Spokesperson, Amanda Conn, said the weekend finale will feature performances from both the recreational and pre-competitive programs.

The recital will take place over four performances at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

The year-end show comes after what Conn said was an "extraordinary" 2025-26 competitive season, "marked not only by outstanding competitive achievements, but also by repeated recognition for sportsmanship, kindness, positivity, and team spirit."

Over the course of the season so far, Skyline dancers have taken to the stage 175 times, earning numerous special awards, overall placements, and adjudicator recognitions across multiple competitions.

Most notably, the studio was honoured with three spirit awards - one at every competition attended this season - recognizing the dancers, staff, and families for creating an environment rooted in encouragement, inclusivity, respect, and teamwork.

"As a community-based, not-for-profit studio, these spirit awards mean so much to us," board chair Stef Wood said. "While we are incredibly proud of the competitive accomplishments this season, we are even more proud of the culture our dancers, families and staff continue to create both on and off the stage."

Conn said that throughout the season, competitions repeatedly praised Skyline dancers and families for their positivity backstage, supportive audience presence, and uplifting attitude toward fellow competitors.

"The studio's commitment to creating a safe, encouraging, and inclusive environment has been a core value since Skyline was established, and this season those values were reflected in every event attended," Conn said.

She added the season also marked a year of growth and evolution for the studio, including welcoming new members to the teaching and choreography team, introducing new training structures, and continuing to challenge dancers artistically and technically.

"Dancers demonstrated tremendous dedication, perseverance, and resilience while continuing to grow as both performers and individuals. At Skyline, we believe dance is about so much more than what happens on stage.

A photo taken at last year's dance finale. *File.*

The interpersonal skills, work ethic, leadership, teamwork, kindness, and confidence our dancers displayed this season are achievements that will stay with them long after competition season ends," Conn said.

The studio competed at DanceAttack in Cobourg March 27-29, the Breakthru Dance Challenge in Ottawa, April 17-19, and the Shooting Stars Dance Competition in Huntsville May 15-17; bringing home countless awards.

Conn said while the trophies and placements are worth celebrating, Skyline leadership emphasizes that the season's greatest accomplishment has been the growth of its dancers as compassionate, confident, and supportive young people who continue to excel at their art and sport.

Competition director, Wilson Klodt Wong, added, "the goal was never just to build strong dancers — it was to build strong humans. Technique and training are essential, but the legacy of a studio is built in the quieter moments: encouraging teammates backstage, showing respect to competitors, and leading with kindness. Winning a spirit award shows that others are recognizing the culture we as a team have worked so hard to create together."

Looking ahead to next season, Skyline's pre-competitive auditions for the 2026-27 dance season will be held on May 31. Families interested in auditioning are encouraged to register in advance by May 30 through skylinedancestudio.ca

Tickets for the June 5-7 recital can be purchased through OnStageDirect.ca or at skylinedancestudio.ca

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Announcement: Wilberforce FUNraisers Bursary 2026

The Wilberforce FUNraisers Group (WFG) is a local non-profit community group dedicated to the betterment of the Wilberforce Community, with an emphasis on opportunities for youth. Our goal is to see the youth of the community reach their full potential, and have access to whatever further training they need to accomplish that.

This will be the sixth year that the WFG will award a bursary to one or more local students.

The deadline for Applications for the $600 WFG Bursary is July 17th this year.

Criteria: Qualified local students are those who are graduating from high school this spring and continuing in post secondary studies (whether it be university, college, or an apprenticeship program). Additionally, candidates must be from the Wilberforce area and/or have attended the Wilberforce Elementary school; provide proof of enrollment in their post secondary program; and be willing to provide a progress report to the WFG at the end of their first post secondary year.

Students interested in applying for the Bursary should contact Joan Barton at: joan4196@gmail.com or 705-448-3074.

We would like to thank Wilberforce and the surrounding community for their generous support of WFG over the years.

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

• Join us for the opening reception of the Members Exhibition of the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands on Saturday, May 30 from 1 – 3 pm. Featuring over 40 local artists, the exhibition is presented in partnership with the Art in Public Spaces Committee of the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, and Fielding Estate Winery. The exhibit is on display until July 18.

• *Museum of Her*, a new exhibition by national recognized artist Michèle Karch-Ackerman opens on Thursday, May 28. The exhibit will be on display in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (Kirkwood Room) until July 18. The Artist Talk is scheduled for Saturday, June 6 at 1:00 pm.

• *Miijim: Traditional Foods of the Anishinaabeg*, on loan from The MUSE: Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora, was created in partnership between MUSE, Iskatewizaagegan No. 39 Independent First Nation, and the Natural Resources Institute of the University of Manitoba. The exhibit focuses on miijim - food - and its importance to the body, mind, soul, and heart of the Anishinaabeg. The exhibit will be on display from June 2 to August 29 at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

• The Minden Hills Museum and Heritage Village, and Nature's Place is now open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm! Stop by Fridays at 11 am for the Toddler Discover Zone, and Saturdays at 11 am for Hands-On activities! All are welcome. Admission is by donation.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

SIGN UP TODAY!

• May 30th is the deadline to apply to be a vendor during Minden's Canada Day celebrations. To get the application email Megan Locker, mlocker@mindenhills.ca

• Summer camp registration is open! Sign your child up for one of our weeks of summer camp in person at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena or online at www.mindenhills.ca/recreation.

REGISTER TO VOTE!

Confirm you are on the Voters List! The next municipal election will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026. To register and/or confirm your information visit the Elections Ontario Register Voter Portal www.registertovoteon.ca/

Don't forget about your School Support Designation! Review it by June 1 at www.mpac.ca/schoolsupport.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

• May 28 – Regular Council Meeting
• June 11 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

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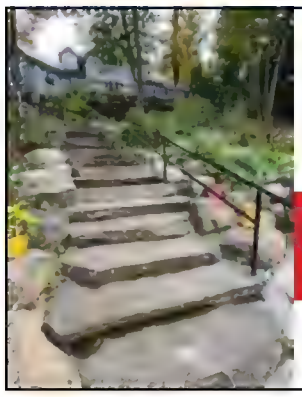
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Jessica Pearson and the East Wind. *Submitted.*

East Wind hits Haliburton

By Adam Frisk
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Jessica Pearson and the East Wind is set to take the stage at the Haliburton Legion on Saturday (May 30), and the audience can expect to be taken on an emotional rollercoaster.

Pearson, the frontwoman of the Ottawa Valley-based trio, and her bandmates have spent the past few years turning heads across the Canadian folk scene. Winner of the 2025 Folk Music Ontario's Performing Artist of the Year award, and nominated for Recording Artist of the Year, the threesome is preparing to bring their highly-praised live performance to the legion on May 30, featuring an opening set by Haliburton's own Jocelyn Regina.

The band, made up of Pearson, Sam Stone, and Malia Rogers, leans into classic country storytelling, Americana, and traditional Celtic sound into an emotionally-charged show.

Speaking to *The Highlander*, Pearson opened up about the personal history, matriarchal strength, and the vulnerability that fuels the band's uniqueness.

"For myself and for my two bandmates, we have been surrounded by amazing women growing up. All of our moms are just so kind and caring," the singer explained. "My mom and my grandma were massive figures in my life. They taught me about the power of our voices, especially as women, and being able to speak up, the power in it, but also how important it is to keep our voice and to say what we need to and to stand up for each other."

That personal philosophy extends into how Pearson views the music industry, where female acts are faced with limited opportunities with only a handful of festival slots, for example.

"I was raised in a world where, as women, we were taught to compete and compare ourselves to each other," she said.

The singer said that the band channels solidarity in their tracks like Salt the Earth, which speaks to the political climate down south, where "women's voices are being turned off and taken away.

"Salt the Earth is all about how important it is to fight for that, how important it is to stand up for each other in that space," she said.

"We talk about things from the joy and love of community and being together, the privilege of having friendships and relationships that you truly feel loved in," Pearson said. "Then we talk about a lot of things that are hard to talk about."

She went on to explain that songs like Better allowed her to shed the shame and guilt of her late ADHD diagnosis and to choose joy and love instead.

"We try to build a space where people can come in and feel what they want to feel, no more, no less."

As for the band's name, it turns out the east wind is a direct nod to the nature of their music. Pearson recalled a story from a friend on the East Coast whose uncle lost his entire front porch to the east wind during a massive New Brunswick storm.

"The east wind can be so many different things," she said. "It can lightly brush by you and bring a warm breeze, softness, and safety. But it can also be fierce, strong, and powerful. For me, that wind symbolizes our voices. We can be soft and vulnerable, but we are also fierce when we share these stories."

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Pictured are some of the artifacts that will be on display at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. *Supplied photo.*

New 'Miijim' exhibit on display in Minden

By Adam Frisk
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A new summer exhibit is coming to the Minden Hills Cultural Centre that explores the relationship between food, culture, and the land.

Opening June 2, the exhibit, titled *Miijim: Traditional Foods of the Anishinaabeg*, focuses on the belief that everything provided by the earth is a gift from the creator. The exhibit was created in partnership with Iskatewizaagegan No. 39 Independent First Nation and the University of Manitoba and is on loan from The MUSE: Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora.

Township cultural services manager Shannon Kelly explained that for Minden Hills, the exhibit represents a step toward expanding the narrative beyond the history of traditional logging and agricultural settlers.

"If you want to know the history of Haliburton County, obviously you have to start kind of at the beginning, and that is with the First Nations people who were here for thousands of years," she said. "We're really trying to add that to our everyday programming here."

Kelly said the exhibit features large cloth banners displayed across the main building and Nature's Place, which focuses on the collection of food, the processing, and its spiritual importance.

To supplement the exhibit, Kelly said she secured ash-splint and elm bark baskets that were made by elders in the early 1900s, and a birch bark canoe model. These items are also on loan from the Scugog Shores Museum. The exhibit also features a scent station, highlighting four plants sacred to the Anishinaabe: cedar, tobacco, sweetgrass, and sage.

The *Miijim* exhibit also ties in with the reopening of the Minden boardwalk, where news panels were installed that highlight the First Nations' use of local flora and plants within the area.

"With the boardwalk leading right up to Nature's Place, there's a nice tie-in with that First Nations material as well as the exhibit that we're having on display," Kelly said.

Kelly said she hopes *Miijim*, derived from the Anishinaabeg word for "food," leaves a lasting impression on how residents and visitors perceive local history and the connection with its Indigenous roots.

"Right now, we hear the land acknowledgment a lot," Kelly said. "I don't want people to just hear it and not understand what it's about. When you hear the land acknowledgement, you shouldn't just hear the words, but understand the heart and soul behind that, and how the local First Nations felt about mother earth."

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What's on

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Office open 9 a.m. to noon, clubroom closed.
Tuesdays: Cadets after school starts at 5 p.m., meeting starts at 6 p.m. Games and cards night starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Darts league 7 p.m. start.
Wednesdays: Office and clubroom closed
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month, March to December; ladies auxiliary meeting last Thursday of the month, February to November.
Fridays: Meat draw, five draws, five prize each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets are $2 per draw; fun darts at 4:30 p.m. onwards; 50/50 draw at 5 p.m., tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom.
Saturdays: Open only for special events
Clubroom hours: Monday closed; Tuesday 5-9 p.m.; Wednesday closed; Thursday 3-6 p.m., Friday 3-7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday closed.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden

Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Monday to Thursday** with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' **Tuesday**.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.
Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Weekly activities:
Karaoke: call for dates
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.
Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce

Monday: open 7 to 10 p.m.
Tuesday: closed, special events only..
Wednesday: open 2 to 10 p.m.
Thursday: open 2 to 10 p.m. May 28 HHHS social recreation at 10 a.m.
Friday: open 2 to 11 p.m. May 29 is fish and chips from 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday: open 2 to 9 p.m. May 30 is trivia at 7 p.m.
Sunday: closed, special events only.

Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 566 Cardiff

Hours: Sunday and Monday 3 to 6 p.m. and **Thursday** 3 to 9 p.m.
Events: Breakfast on the first **Sunday** of each month from 9 to 11 a.m.; euchre on the second **Sunday** of each month at 12:30 p.m.
Shuffleboard every **Thursday** from 7 to 9 p.m.
Music and jam session ever second **Saturday** of the month from 1 to 4 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 441 Kinmount

Mondays: Bid euchre at 1 p.m.
Tuesdays: Closed
Wednesdays: Mixed darts at 7:30 p.m.
Thursdays: Closed
Fridays: Clubroom opens at 4 p.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. with play beginning at 6:45 p.m. Supper specials starting at 5 p.m.
Saturdays: Clubroom opens at 3 p.m. Meat draw at 5:30 p.m.

EVENTS

May 28, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rally for Rhubarb returns to support kitchen programs at SIRCH Community Services. If you have extra rhubarb growing in your garden, consider donating to SIRCH during this year's collection days. Also running May 29, June 4 and 5. Donations can be dropped off at the SIRCH Bistro at 49 Maple Ave. It will be turned into homemade fruit servings and desserts for people experiencing food insecurity.

May 30, 1 to 3 p.m. Opening reception of The Arts Council Haliburton Highlands member exhibit at Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden, located at 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Featuring pieces from 46 artists. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

May 31, 11 a.m. The Haliburton and District Lions Club is hosting its annual walk for dog guides event at the Haliburton Pet Valu.

May 31, 1 p.m. The Township of Algonquin Highlands is hosting an official opening of the green burial section at St. Stephen's Cemetery, located at 2072 Buckslide Rd. Guest speakers include mayor Liz Danielsen, end-of-life doula Adriane Weller and green burial society president Terry Moore. All are welcome.

May 31, 3 p.m. Highlands Wind Symphony spring concert at Pinestone Inn and Conference Centre. Also featuring the Highlands Swing Band with Jerelyn Craden. Tickets available at Minden Pharmasave, Redmen Records and Master's Book Store – adults $15, family admission $30.

June 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit Head Lake Park in Haliburton every Tuesday through summer for the Haliburton County Farmers Market. Find everything from locally-grown fruits and vegetables, soaps, health and wellness products, smokes meats, imported cheese, dog treats, maple syrup and more. Runs every Tuesday in Haliburton until Oct. 6 and every Saturday in Minden until Oct. 10.

June 2, 7 p.m. Do you love to garden? Join the Minden and District Horticultural Society at the Minden Community Centre. Guest speaker Lucille Fowler will present 'designing a cutting garden', followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome.

June 5, 3 to 5 p.m. Friends of Ecological and Environmental Learning (FEEL) is hosting its annual general meeting at The Link in Haliburton. Following the meeting there will be a presentation from Steve Lukacic who will talk about sustainable living and self-reliance, exploring food as medicine and ways to reconnect with health and nature. All are welcome.

June 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Snowflake Meadows is hosting a 'magical festival fundraiser' at its location at 1089 Ritchie Falls Rd. in Minden. Proceeds will help the non-profit with its goal to build a new kennel facility. All are welcome.

June 6, 10 a.m. Environment Haliburton! is hosting its annual general meeting at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. Following the meeting, Dr. Tim James will talk about boat wakes. All are welcome.

June 6, 1 p.m. Artist Michele Karch-Ackerman will be at Agnes Jamieson Gallery to discuss her 'Museum of Her' exhibit, which runs May 28 to July 18. All are welcome. Admission is by donation.

MY Haliburton HIGHLANDS
Seniors Active Living Centre

Check out this month's SALC events and activities for residents aged 55+

Board game drop-in – various dates in June

June 3, 9, 11, & 12
Tech Help Walk-in Clinic

June 3, 10, 17 & 24
Yarners Social

June 3, 11, 17, 19, 23
Genealogy for Seniors

June 4 & 11
Breathwork Class

June 4 & 18
Painting Class

June 4, 10, 11, 12, & 26
Needle Felting: Bumblebees

June 5
Live Music with Jeff Moulton

June 5, 12, 19
Gentle Stretch, Balance & Relaxation

June 5, 12, 19, & 26
Senior Balance

June 8
SALC Webinar: Hearing Health

June 9, 16 & 23
Seniors Stretch Class

June 9, 16, 23, & 30
Exercise classes with Georgia

June 10
Exercise with Georgia

June 11 & 25
Chair Yoga with Ardith

June 17
Crafternoon

June 18
Poetry with Patricia

June 22
SALC Webinar: Pollinator Gardens

June 24
Summer High Tea Party

Ontario

Funding for this program has been provided by the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

For full details, visit HaliburtonCounty.ca/SALC or pick up a calendar at a municipal office, library or Legion near you!

Highlander classifieds

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FOR SALE - Haliburton Micromeadows Native Plant Nursery - Open Fri-Mon, 10am-4pm at 1274 Lochlin Rd., Minden (located on private property). We carry a wide variety of native Ontario perennials, grasses, small trees and shrubs for gardens and habitat projects. Visit haliburton micromeadows.ca or follow us on Facebook @haliburton micromeadows

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YARD SALE

MOVING SALE – 5 Stouffer Street, Minden. Saturday, May 30th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. & Sunday, May 31st from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Lots & lots of tools, power & manual. Furniture, antiques and new cabinets, wooden & metal, Snow Blower, BBQ, table saws, utility trailer, assorted ladders, collectables, wooden barber polls, household items and much, much more!

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LOOKING FOR experienced, caring, attentive person, or Nursing Student for summer placement, who has dementia experience to help at a cottage near Minden, for July & August. It can be live-in or live-out, must be full time and can be split shifts. My husband is very mobile but needs help with cognitive functions. References required. Please call 416-435-9101

EVENT

EVENT - STAINED GLASS WORKSHOPS from beginner up. Learn the art of Stained Glass in one or two day classes.. Call Tom at 705-286-3628

NOTICE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS - Sundays - 10:30 am at St. Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.

HELP WANTED

Township of Algonquin Highlands
Public Works Department

We are currently accepting resumes for the following position:

Operator – Dorset Yard

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete details.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume by **3:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2026** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

HELP WANTED

Municipality of Highlands East
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This is a part-time, seasonal position. The successful candidate will work with the Community Economic Development & Committee Coordinator. This position will be responsible for providing assistance to the Community Economic Development & Committee Coordinator with the operations of the Highlands East Information Centre.

Preference will be given to candidates who have:

- Knowledge of Highlands East activities (Mineral Collecting, Trails, Geo-Caching, local events)
- Knowledge of the Highlands East Information Centre Operations
- Awareness of current goals and objectives of the Municipality
- A valid Class G or G2 driver's license
- The Information Centre Labourer will be expected to work inside and outside
- Up to 30 Hours per week, days of work will vary. Weekend work will be a requirement

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications **clearly marked "Application – Information Centre Labourer"** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Friday, June 5th, 2026 via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Tracy Vader, HR/Payroll Coordinator
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0
E-Mail: humanresources@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the HR/Payroll Coordinator.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. Questions about this collection should be directed to Tracy Vader, HR/Payroll Coordinator.

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OBITUARY

In Loving Memory of

Lynn Craigmyle

March 7, 1940 – May 18, 2026

It is with profound sadness and heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Lynn Craigmyle after a brief stay in the Haliburton Hospital.

Lynn is survived by his partner in crime and "Little Holy", Carole (nee Costain), son Doug (Jackie) and Daughter Dianne *Dizey* (Phil). He will be deeply missed for both his humour and wisdom by his three grandsons, Maxwell (Josie), Bennett and Jake, and by his bonus grandkids Connie (Cam), Rodrigo and Liam.

Lynn fell in love with Haliburton when his parents bought a cottage on the shores of Drag Lake in 1956. He met the love of his life while working in a real estate office in Lindsay. It didn't take long for those two crazy kids to make their way to Haliburton full time. It was here that they raised Doug and Dianne, became deeply rooted in their community and built a beautiful life surrounded by nature and great friends. When not working in Real Estate Lynn would often take "character building" adventures with the kids. Both Doug and Dianne developed a deep love for the outdoors and nature through these adventures.

Lynn loved his family hard. He was a very proud husband, dad and grandpa, making sure he spent time with everyone. You felt like you were the only person that mattered when he gave you his ear.

Unfortunately in 2003, after a short but successful battle with cancer, Lynn's mobility was affected, so some of his adventures had to come to an end. His love of exploring never did. From hours spent by the shores of Dutton Lake in his beloved Haliburton Forest and Wildlife, to listening to the tales of his kids on their global adventures, living life fully was never far from his mind.

Cremation has taken place.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Snowflake Meadows Rescue (by cheque only), Haliburton Forest and Wildlife (by cheque only) or Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) in Lynn's honour and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario KoM 2Ko.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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TRIBUTE

Paul Michael Cummings

Tribute

Paul Cummings was born on July 21, 1957 in Pickering, Ont.

He passed away on Jan. 15, 2026 in Victoria, Vancouver Island, B.C.

Paul is survived by his siblings : Carole, Elizabeth, Brenda, Patricia and Michael and pre deceased by siblings : Lorne, Kevin, Michelle and Donald and mother Mary Alice Bates and father Michael Joseph Cummings.

Paul started school at St Francis de Sales in Pickering , Ontario. He continued at the elementary schools in Haliburton, Ontario when his parents moved there in 1968. Paul attended Haliburton High School before attending Laurentian University on Sudbury, Ontario.

Paul travelled to Victoria in the mid 1990's. He lived in Victoria, Sooke and Duncan area.

He participated in various community groups and activities such as the Green Barter System, Near Death Experience (NDE) Society of Vancouver Island, Sooke Lions, peer helper at Sooke Family Resource Society, Brain Injury Society, artistic gyroscope dance, Every Step Counts, coached with Special Olympics ski team, Spirit Bears, electronic publishing, photography, men's groups, personal growth, Reiki, wholistic health, Huntingtons Disease (HD) Society and UBC HD research study.

Some of the sports Paul participated in are hockey, skating, golf, baseball, basketball, lacrosse, pool, sailing, badminton and tennis.

Paul did trades contracts and driving instructor work for employment.

He enjoyed going to music coffee houses, concerts, jazz festivals, plays, IMAX theatre, Victoria boat festival , Victoria inner harbor music and events or just enjoying an ice cream cone on the Beacon Hill Park lookout.

Travelling around Vancouver Island (Duncan , Sooke and Victoria areas) on his motor cycle or in his car was a pleasure Paul enjoyed while taking in the area and having a Timmy's coffee. Also, he enjoyed going for walks and always had to pet and engage with dogs/owners along the way.

He loved reading, and had over 600 books. In particular he enjoyed mystery, sci-fi and wholistic books.

He had a gift when he dialogued with people, he could succinctly summarize things in a one sentence response for others.. Paul's had a spiritual nature and had the intention to be guided by quality harmonious choices. And had an inner drive for fairness and justice.

Paul enjoyed going out to different restaurants and going to the Oak Bay pool. He made many friends on these outings. In his later years, Paul woke up every day glad to be alive and live in the moment. Paul regularly answered the phone 'Paul here'. Maybe, now when you think of Paul you will hear 'Paul here'.

Paul will be greatly missed by many people.

- Cummings family and Chris Kunz

Hi
It's nicer here.

OBITUARY

In Loving Memory of

Carol Elizabeth McClay

August 25, 1943 – May 16, 2026

Carol Elizabeth McClay, longtime resident of Eagle Lake, Ontario, passed away peacefully on May 16, 2026, at the age of 82.

Carol spent 38 wonderful years in Eagle Lake before later residing at the long-term care home in Southampton, Ontario. She will be lovingly remembered for her warmth, strength, sense of humour, and the many cherished memories shared with family, coworkers, and friends throughout her life.

Predeceased by her beloved husband, Terry McClay, with whom she shared 41 years together. Carol leaves behind her loving children, Tanya and Jarret (Michelle). She was a proud and devoted grandmother to her grandsons Kyle (Ashley), and Ethan, and her Great grandsons Corbin, Grady and Xilo, they brought her endless joy.

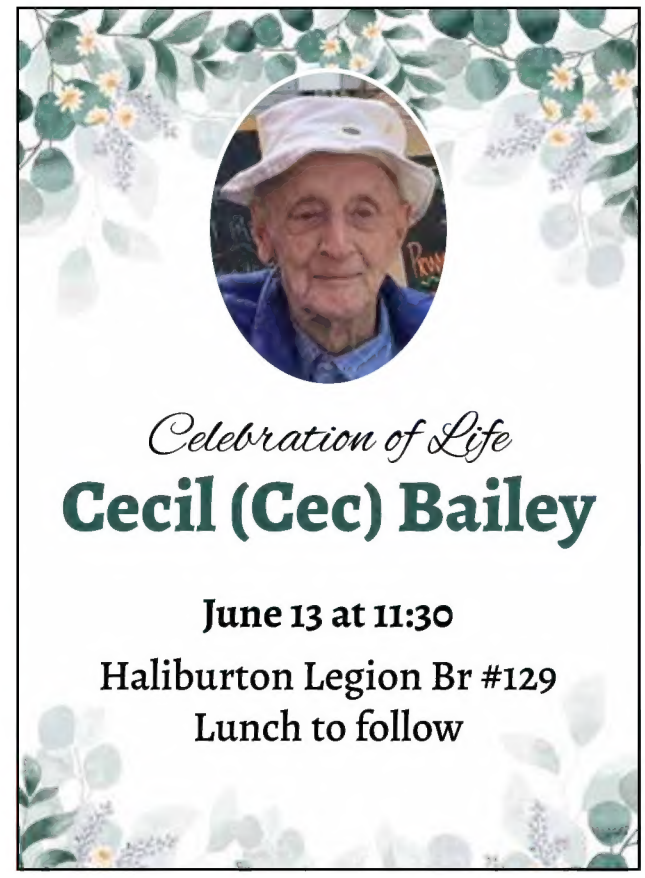
She is also survived by her brother, Ralph (Pat) Nichols, along with extended family and many dear friends.

Carol wished for no formal service or celebration of life. Instead, her family asks that you simply take a quiet moment to remember Carol and reflect on the good times and memories shared with her.

She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered always.

Arrangements entrusted to the Eagleson Funeral Home, Southampton.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Celebration of Life

Cecil (Cec) Bailey

June 13 at 11:30

Haliburton Legion Br #129
Lunch to follow

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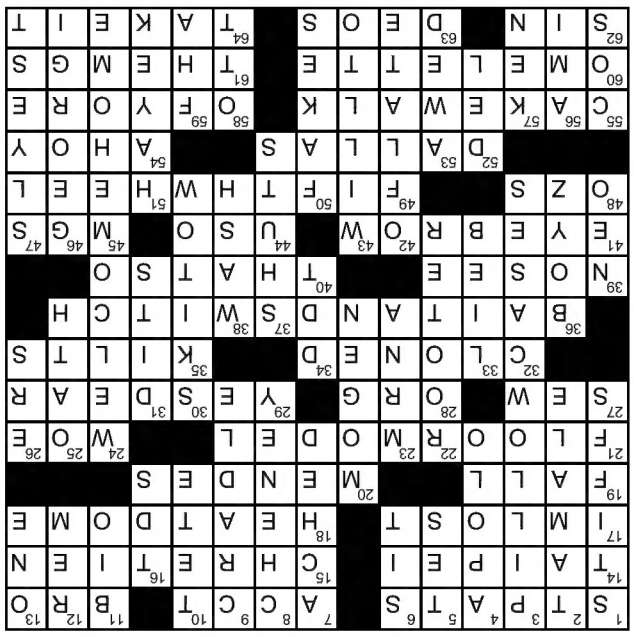

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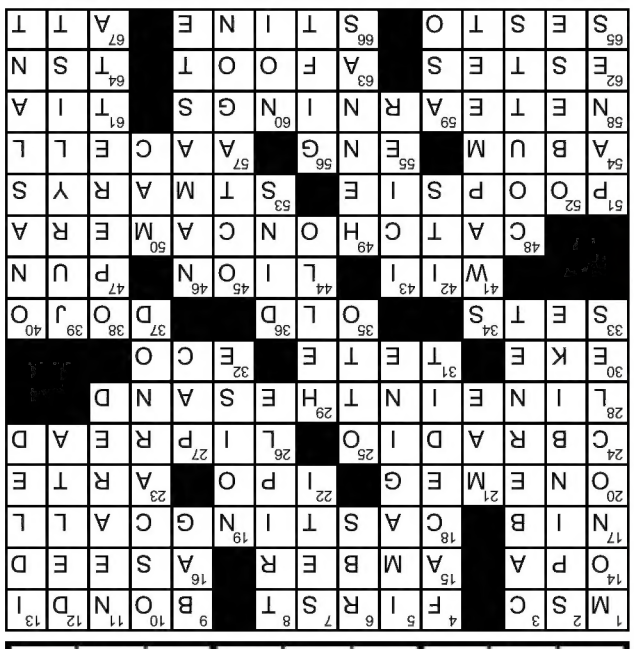

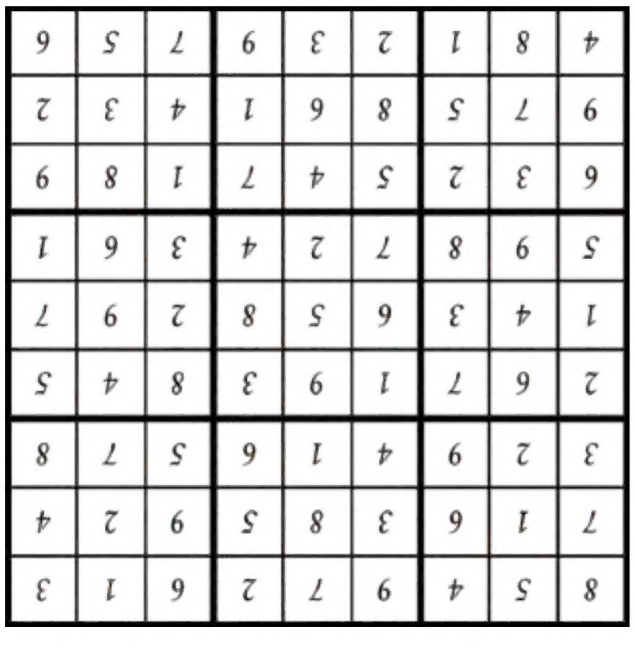

OBITUARY

In Loving Memory of

Helen Findlay Elliott (nee Gibson)

Helen was born on January 30, 1934 in Kilwinning, Scotland. She passed away peacefully at the Northumberland Hills Hospital, Cobourg on Monday, May 18, 2026, at the age of 92.

Beloved wife of the late William Templeton Elliott. Dear mother of William (Carrol), Morag Ritchie. Loving grandmother of William Elliott, Nicholas Elliott, Zachary Elliott, Rebecca Ritchie and Emily Ritchie. Dear sister of Sadie Somerville. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends. The family would like to thank the staff at the Northumberland Hills Hospital Palliative Care Unit and Dr. K. Tisher for the care and compassion shown to Helen.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden KoM 2Ko on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Service to Celebrate Helen's Life at 1:00pm. Reception to follow at the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Interment at Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Northumberland Hills Foundation-Palliative Care would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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In Loving Memory of

Joyce Broersma (nee Reaman)

Joyce was born in Aurora, Ontario on April 13, 1940 and passed away at Haliburton Hospital on May 19, 2026.

Family always came first for Joyce. Daughter of the late Gordon and Dorothy Reaman. She was a loving wife to her husband and best friend Andy who passed away in 2024. She was cherished by her family – daughters Anne (Marcel), Jean (Steve) and Maggie (Kevin), grandchildren Tracey (Darnell), Bob, Andrea, Jesse (Tanya), Greg (Jessie), Mathew (Amanda), Tony (Lindsay), Steve (Kristi), Kimberly (Steve) and Liam (Jessie) as well has her 17 great grandchildren Owen, Danielle, Evan, Nicole, Logan, Tristan, Brooke, Rylan, Tayler, Ethan, Declan, Abby, Kennedy, Cullen, Gabriel, Caleb and Mavric. She is survived by her siblings; Doug (deceased) (Joyce), Carl (deceased) (Betty), Donna (Richard), Kathy (Frank – deceased), Shirley (Irwin), Donald (deceased) and her in-laws Harvey (Sita), Len (Marie), Winda (Peter) and Peter (Vivian) as well as many extended family members.

Joyce's first job was at United Farms in Bradford where she met Andy and when their daughters came along; she stayed home and started driving a school bus to Park Avenue Public School in Holland Landing where they lived. She also managed to drive a few taxi runs in between bus routes. During this time Joyce and Andy acted as foster parents to many children in need – they didn't need to be blood related, they were just there for all. Camping with the Gad-a-bouts was a big part of how the family spent time together cultivating many friendships with their fellow campers. Joyce and Andy purchased Kushog Korners in March 1979 then settled in Minden in 1999. Joyce ultimately moved to Haliburton in 2020 to be closer to her beloved husband at Extendicare. Joyce was very active in the community – quilting, rug hooking, shuffleboard, cards and participating in the Senior Games at many levels around the province.

The family would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to Dr. Bishop and the attentive nurses in the emergency department at Haliburton Hospital as well as the staff at both Highland Wood and the Gardens for the attentive care provided to Joyce. She was a cancer survivor.

Keeping with Joyce's wishes, cremation has taken place and a Memorial Service celebrating her life will be held at the Highland Hills United Church (21 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario KoM 2Ko) on June 13th. The church will be open for visitation at 1pm with the service at 2pm followed by a reception, light lunch and fellowship for the sharing of memories and tributes.

Memorial donations to the Minden Community Food Centre (24 Newcastle Street, Minden Ontario KoM 2Ko) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. box 427, Minden, Ontario KoM 2Ko or through following link www.mindencommunityfoodcentre.ca

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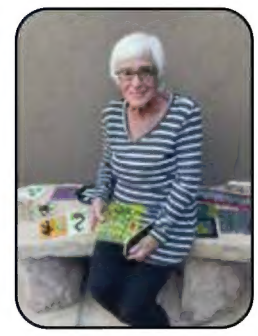
In Loving Memory of

Gloria Jane (Herlihey) Stepanek ~ "GG"

July 23, 1946 – May 14, 2026



Peacefully, in a solarium room at the Perth Hospital, at the age of 79, surrounded by her family. Loving mother of Heidi (Peter), and Holly. Survived by their father, Paul. Treasured grandmother of Evander, Emanuella, Lily, Jacob, Aja, Jaime and Anika. Cherished sister of Carol Jean. Dear great-grandmother of Levi, Lyra-James, Tanasi and Samuel. Beloved daughter of the late Harold and Beatrice (Schickler) Herlihey of Wilberforce. Special friend, aunt, teacher, cousin and colleague to so many.

Gloria was a scrapper, and fought a difficult and long illness for many years with her unique brand of quirky humour. "Though she be but little, she is fierce." She had a rare ability to really see a person, and give them her full and undivided focus and empathy. She was a true artist, full of energy, passion and unquenchable creativity.

Gloria grew up in the small village of Wilberforce, Ontario, where she attended the local two-room schoolhouse where her mother was teacher and principal. She trained as a nurse and a journalist until she settled on her true love, teaching, as her career. She passed on her bright light to so many students over her 40-year career, the bulk of which was at St John Elementary and High School in Perth, where she became the head of Special Education. She started the theatre program there in the 1980s, and was instrumental in producing, directing, and performing in countless musicals at the school and in the community throughout her life. She loved painting, and was quite adept, leaving behind many masterpieces. Her art studio was her happy place. Her main focus, however, was her family, who she loved with her whole heart.

Please join us in celebrating GG's life on Saturday, September 5 at 1:00 pm in Herlihey Park, Wilberforce. In lieu of flowers, donations to an annual scholarship for St. John Catholic High School in Perth, in memory of Gloria is being established, and would be appreciated by the family.

In Loving Memory of

Herbert Rogers

It is with great sadness that the family of Herbert Rogers announce his passing on May 18th, after a long battle with cancer.

He was surrounded by his family, wife Margaret, daughter Pauline, son in law David, Son Shane, daughter in law Danielle, grandchildren Glenn, Meagan, Jake, and Sarah. A special thank you to community care and all the drivers.

Celebration of Life to held in July.

HOME & COTTAGE

Highlander puzzles

What's Your Angle?

by Barbara Olson
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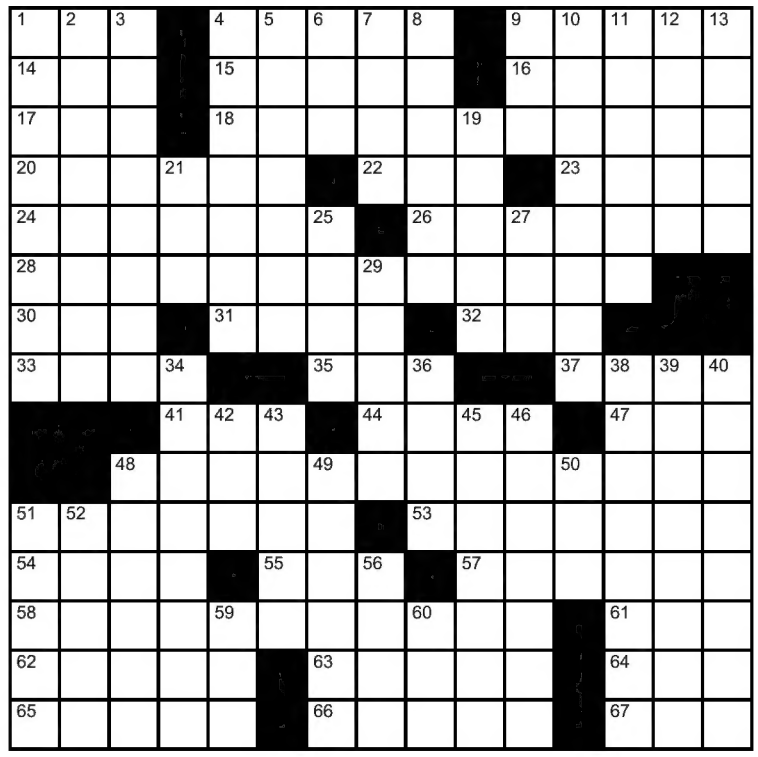

Across

1 Advanced chem. degree
4 "For starters, ..."
9 Popular Australian beach
14 ___-Locka (city near Miami)
15 Healing gem of folklore
16 Plant ___ of doubt
17 Bic tip
18 Fisher's "Heads up, I'm hurling my hook!", e.g.?
20 1024 KBs
22 TSX debut
23 Funny Johnson
24 "Breaker 1/9" device
26 See what someone's saying?
28 What a careless shore fisher might leave behind?
30 Just manage, with "out"
31 Chapeau holder
32 "Enviro" alternative
33 Rummy card groups
35 "Vintage," less politely
37 Chop shop?
41 Fit Plus game console
44 Lahr's Oz role
47 Dad joke, often
48 Star in a fishing show?
51 Honey-bun
53 University in Halifax or Calgary
54 "Hallelujah, I'm ___" (Al Jolson film)
55 Canterbury's cry.
57 Remote battery
58 Fisher's haul?
61 Alejandro's aunt
62 "90210" actor Rob
63 Underway
64 "SportsCentre" channel
65 Italian "sixth"
66 "Goosebumps" author R.L.
67 "Law & Order" fig.

Down

1 Accessories for Mr. Monopoly and Mr. Peanut
2 Peloton kin
3 Red wine choice
4 Accepted reality
5 "And the world will live as one" song
6 CFL ball carriers
7 "The X-Files" org.
8 Drink size after a really hard day
9 Interest, slangily
10 Academy Award nomination
11 Got "warm," in a game
12 "___ Dawn" (Helen Reddy hit)
13 Fumed in a traffic jam?
19 Snap, crackle or pop
21 West of "Sex"
25 "The Simpsons" bus driver
27 ___-Man
29 Conversation starter, often
34 Trade show, of sorts
36 Big rackets
38 "Candide," for one
39 Trial dozen roster
40 Tilted
42 "FWIW" part
43 Slicker, in winter
45 Stop sign shape
46 Ashram greeting
48 Alberta site of a trucker blockade, 2022
49 Temporary tattoo inks
50 ___ & cheese
51 Glazier's installations
52 30+ BMI
56 Special talent
59 Japanese volcano
60 "There's ___ in 'team'"

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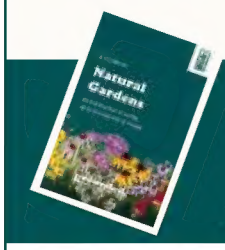

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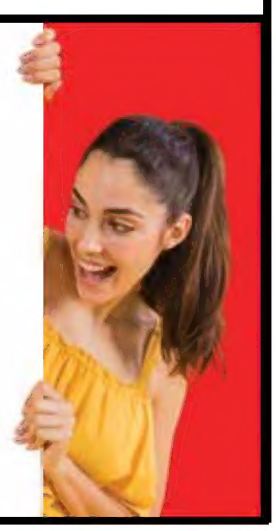

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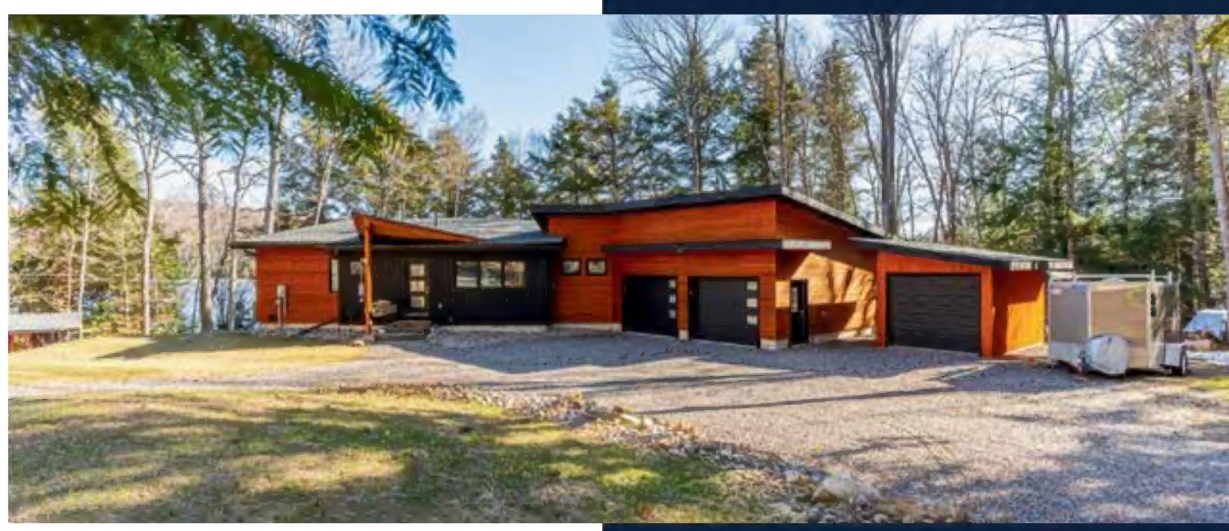

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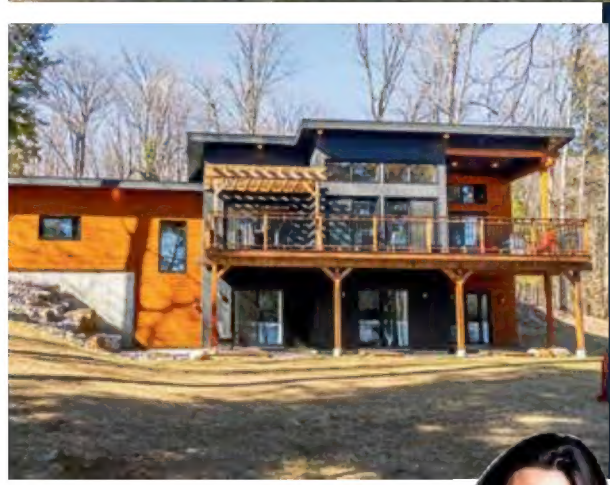

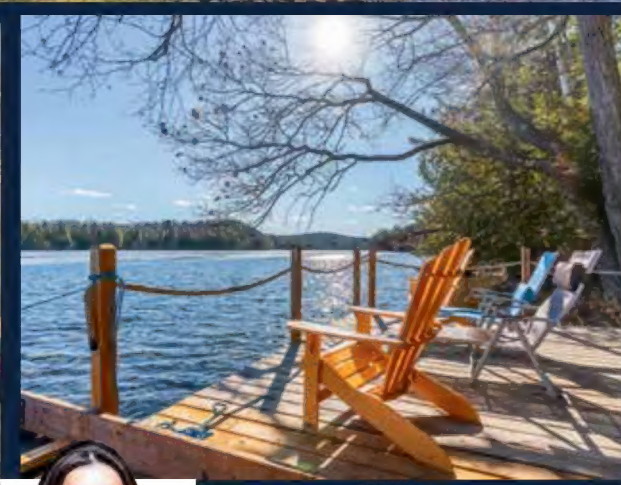

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